

NAME

`canonicalize_file_name` – return the canonicalized absolute pathname

SYNOPSIS

```
#define _GNU_SOURCE    /* See feature_test_macros(7) */
#include <stdlib.h>

char *canonicalize_file_name(const char *path);
```

DESCRIPTION

The `canonicalize_file_name()` function returns a null-terminated string containing the canonicalized absolute pathname corresponding to *path*. In the returned string, symbolic links are resolved, as are `.` and `..` pathname components. Consecutive slash (`/`) characters are replaced by a single slash.

The returned string is dynamically allocated by `canonicalize_file_name()` and the caller should deallocate it with `free(3)` when it is no longer required.

The call `canonicalize_file_name(path)` is equivalent to the call:

```
realpath(path, NULL);
```

RETURN VALUE

On success, `canonicalize_file_name()` returns a null-terminated string. On error (e.g., a pathname component is unreadable or does not exist), `canonicalize_file_name()` returns `NULL` and sets `errno` to indicate the error.

ERRORS

See `realpath(3)`.

ATTRIBUTES

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see `attributes(7)`.

Interface	Attribute	Value
<code>canonicalize_file_name()</code>	Thread safety	MT-Safe

CONFORMING TO

This function is a GNU extension.

SEE ALSO

`readlink(2)`, `realpath(3)`

COLOPHON

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