NAME

inotify_init, inotify_init1 - initialize an inotify instance

SYNOPSIS

#include <sys/inotify.h>

int inotify_init(void);
int inotify_init1(int flags);

DESCRIPTION

For an overview of the inotify API, see inotify(7).

inotify_init() initializes a new inotify instance and returns a file descriptor associated with a new inotify event queue.

If *flags* is 0, then **inotify_init1**() is the same as **inotify_init**(). The following values can be bitwise ORed in *flags* to obtain different behavior:

IN_NONBLOCK

Set the **O_NONBLOCK** file status flag on the open file description (see **open**(2)) referred to by the new file descriptor. Using this flag saves extra calls to **fcntl**(2) to achieve the same result.

IN_CLOEXEC

Set the close-on-exec (**FD_CLOEXEC**) flag on the new file descriptor. See the description of the **O_CLOEXEC** flag in **open**(2) for reasons why this may be useful.

RETURN VALUE

On success, these system calls return a new file descriptor. On error, -1 is returned, and *errno* is set to indicate the error.

ERRORS

EINVAL

(inotify_init1()) An invalid value was specified in *flags*.

EMFILE

The user limit on the total number of inotify instances has been reached.

EMFILE

The per-process limit on the number of open file descriptors has been reached.

ENFILE

The system-wide limit on the total number of open files has been reached.

ENOMEM

Insufficient kernel memory is available.

VERSIONS

inotify_init() first appeared in Linux 2.6.13; library support was added to glibc in version 2.4. **ino-tify_init1**() was added in Linux 2.6.27; library support was added to glibc in version 2.9.

CONFORMING TO

These system calls are Linux-specific.

SEE ALSO

inotify_add_watch(2), inotify_rm_watch(2), inotify(7)

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 5.05 of the Linux *man-pages* project. A description of the project, information about reporting bugs, and the latest version of this page, can be found at https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/.