

NAME

readdir - read directory entry

SYNOPSIS

```
int readdir(unsigned int fd, struct old_linux_dir ent *dirp,
            unsigned int count);
```

Note: There is no glibc wrapper for this system call; see NOTES.

DESCRIPTION

This is not the function you are interested in. Look at [readdir\(3\)](#) for the POSIX conforming C library interface. This page documents the bare kernel system call interface, which is superseded by [getdents\(2\)](#).

readdir() reads one *old_linux_dirent* structure from the directory referred to by the file descriptor *fd* into the buffer pointed to by *dirp*. The argument *count* is ignored; at most one *old_linux_dirent* structure is read.

The *old_linux_dirent* structure is declared as follows:

```
struct old_linux_dirent {
    long d_ino; /* inode number */
    off_t d_off; /* offset to this old_linux_dirent */
    unsigned short d_reclen; /* length of this d_name */
    char d_name[NAME_MAX+1]; /* filename (null-terminated) */
}
```

d_ino is an inode number. *d_off* is the distance from the start of the directory to this *old_linux_dirent*. *d_reclen* is the size of *d_name*, not counting the terminating null byte ('\0'). *d_name* is a null-terminated filename.

RETURN VALUE

On success, 1 is returned. On end of directory, 0 is returned. On error, -1 is returned, and *errno* is set appropriately.

ERRORS**EBADF**

Invalid file descriptor *fd*.

EFAULT

Argument points outside the calling process's address space.

EINVAL

Result buffer is too small.

ENOENT

No such directory.

ENOTDIR

File descriptor does not refer to a directory.

CONFORMING TO

This system call is Linux-specific.

NOTES

Glibc does not provide a wrapper for this system call; call it using [syscall\(2\)](#). You will need to define the *old_linux_dirent* structure yourself. However, probably you should use [readdir\(3\)](#) instead.

This system call does not exist on x86-64.

SEE ALSO

[getdents\(2\)](#), [readdir\(3\)](#)

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 4.10 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/](#).