

NAME

bsd_signal - signal handling with BSD semantics

SYNOPSIS

```
#define _XOPEN_SOURCE /* See feature\_test\_macros\(7\) */  
#include <signal.h>  
  
typedef void (*sighandler_t)(int);  
  
sighandler_t bsd_signal(int signum, sighandler_t handler);
```

DESCRIPTION

The **bsd_signal()** function takes the same arguments, and performs the same task, as [signal\(2\)](#).

The difference between the two is that **bsd_signal()** is guaranteed to provide reliable signal semantics, that is: a) the disposition of the signal is not reset to the default when the handler is invoked; b) delivery of further instances of the signal is blocked while the signal handler is executing; and c) if the handler interrupts a blocking system call, then the system call is automatically restarted. A portable application cannot rely on [signal\(2\)](#) to provide these guarantees.

RETURN VALUE

The **bsd_signal()** function returns the previous value of the signal handler, or **SIG_ERR** on error.

ERRORS

As for [signal\(2\)](#).

ATTRIBUTES

Multithreading (see [pthreads\(7\)](#))

The **bsd_signal()** function is thread-safe.

CONFORMING TO

4.2BSD, POSIX.1-2001. POSIX.1-2008 removes the specification of **bsd_signal()**, recommending the use of [sigaction\(2\)](#) instead.

NOTES

Use of **bsd_signal()** should be avoided; use [sigaction\(2\)](#) instead.

On modern Linux systems, **bsd_signal()** and [signal\(2\)](#) are equivalent. But on older systems, [signal\(2\)](#) provided unreliable signal semantics; see [signal\(2\)](#) for details.

The use of *sighandler_t* is a GNU extension; this type is defined only if the **_GNU_SOURCE** feature test macro is defined.

SEE ALSO

[sigaction\(2\)](#), [signal\(2\)](#), [sysv_signal\(3\)](#), [signal\(7\)](#)

COLOPHON

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