

NAME

`btowc` - convert single byte to wide character

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <wchar.h>
```

```
wint_t btowc(int c);
```

DESCRIPTION

The `btowc()` function converts `c`, interpreted as a multibyte sequence of length 1, starting in the initial shift state, to a wide character and returns it. If `c` is **EOF** or not a valid multibyte sequence of length 1, the `btowc()` function returns **WEOF**.

RETURN VALUE

The `btowc()` function returns the wide character converted from the single byte `c`. If `c` is **EOF** or not a valid multibyte sequence of length 1, it returns **WEOF**.

CONFORMING TO

C99, POSIX.1-2001.

NOTES

The behavior of `btowc()` depends on the **LC_CTYPE** category of the current locale.

This function should never be used. It does not work for encodings which have state, and unnecessarily treats single bytes differently from multibyte sequences. Use either [mbtowc\(3\)](#) or the thread-safe [mbrtowc\(3\)](#) instead.

SEE ALSO

[mbrtowc\(3\)](#), [mbtowc\(3\)](#), [wctob\(3\)](#)

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 3.74 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 <http://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/>.