

**NAME**

ctermid - get controlling terminal name

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
char *ctermid(char *s);
```

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see [feature\\_test\\_macros\(7\)](#)):

```
ctermid(): _POSIX_C_SOURCE >= 1 || _XOPEN_SOURCE || _POSIX_SOURCE
```

**DESCRIPTION**

**ctermid()** returns a string which is the pathname for the current controlling terminal for this process. If *s* is NULL, a static buffer is used, otherwise *s* points to a buffer used to hold the terminal pathname. The symbolic constant **L\_ctermid** is the maximum number of characters in the returned pathname.

**RETURN VALUE**

The pointer to the pathname.

**ATTRIBUTES**

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

The **ctermid()** function is thread-safe with exceptions. It is not thread-safe if called with a NULL parameter.

**CONFORMING TO**

Svr4, POSIX.1-2001.

**BUGS**

The path returned may not uniquely identify the controlling terminal; it may, for example, be */dev/tty*.

It is not assured that the program can open the terminal.

**SEE ALSO**

[ttyname\(3\)](#)

**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/>.