

**NAME**

fclose - close a stream

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <stdio.h>

int fclose(FILE *fp);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The **fclose()** function flushes the stream pointed to by *fp* (writing any buffered output data using [fflush\(3\)](#)) and closes the underlying file descriptor.

The behaviour of **fclose()** is undefined if the *stream* parameter is an illegal pointer, or is a descriptor already passed to a previous invocation of **fclose()**.

**RETURN VALUE**

Upon successful completion 0 is returned. Otherwise, **EOF** is returned and *errno* is set to indicate the error. In either case any further access (including another call to **fclose()**) to the stream results in undefined behavior.

**ERRORS****EBADF**

The file descriptor underlying *fp* is not valid.

The **fclose()** function may also fail and set *errno* for any of the errors specified for the routines [close\(2\)](#), [write\(2\)](#) or [fflush\(3\)](#).

**CONFORMING TO**

C89, C99.

**NOTES**

Note that **fclose()** only flushes the user-space buffers provided by the C library. To ensure that the data is physically stored on disk the kernel buffers must be flushed too, for example, with [sync\(2\)](#) or [fsync\(2\)](#).

**SEE ALSO**

[close\(2\)](#), [fcloseall\(3\)](#), [fflush\(3\)](#), [fopen\(3\)](#), [setbuf\(3\)](#)

**COLOPHON**

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