

## NAME

setnetgrent, endnetgrent, getnetgrent, getnetgrent\_r, innetgr - handle network group entries

## SYNOPSIS

```
#include <netdb.h>

int setnetgrent(const char *netgroup);

void endnetgrent(void);

int getnetgrent(char **host, char **user, char **domain);

int getnetgrent_r(char **host, char **user,
                 char **domain, char *buf, size_t buflen);

int innetgr(const char *netgroup, const char *host,
            const char *user, const char *domain);
```

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

```
setnetgrent(), endnetgrent(), getnetgrent(), getnetgrent_r(), innetgr(): _BSD_SOURCE ||
_SVID_SOURCE
```

## DESCRIPTION

The *netgroup* is a SunOS invention. A netgroup database is a list of string triples (*hostname*, *username*, *domainname*) or other netgroup names. Any of the elements in a triple can be empty, which means that anything matches. The functions described here allow access to the netgroup databases. The file */etc/nsswitch.conf* defines what database is searched.

The **setnetgrent()** call defines the netgroup that will be searched by subsequent **getnetgrent()** calls. The **getnetgrent()** function retrieves the next netgroup entry, and returns pointers in *host*, *user*, *domain*. A null pointer means that the corresponding entry matches any string. The pointers are valid only as long as there is no call to other netgroup-related functions. To avoid this problem you can use the GNU function **getnetgrent\_r()** that stores the strings in the supplied buffer. To free all allocated buffers use **endnetgrent()**.

In most cases you want to check only if the triplet (*hostname*, *username*, *domainname*) is a member of a netgroup. The function **innetgr()** can be used for this without calling the above three functions. Again, a null pointer is a wildcard and matches any string. The function is thread-safe.

## RETURN VALUE

These functions return 1 on success and 0 for failure.

## FILES

*/etc/netgroup*  
*/etc/nsswitch.conf*

## CONFORMING TO

These functions are not in POSIX.1-2001, but **setnetgrent()**, **endnetgrent()**, **getnetgrent()**, and **innetgr()** are available on most UNIX systems. **getnetgrent\_r()** is not widely available on other systems.

## NOTES

In the BSD implementation, **setnetgrent()** returns void.

## SEE ALSO

[sethostent\(3\)](#), [setprotoent\(3\)](#), [setservent\(3\)](#)

## 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/>.