

**NAME**

getpt - open the pseudoterminal master (PTM)

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#define _GNU_SOURCE /* See feature\_test\_macros\(7\) */
#include <stdlib.h>

int getpt(void);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

**getpt()** opens a pseudoterminal master and returns its file descriptor. It is equivalent to `open(/dev/ptmx, O_RDWR | O_NOCTTY);`

on Linux systems, though the pseudoterminal master is located elsewhere on some systems that use GNU Libc.

**RETURN VALUE**

**getpt()** returns an open file descriptor upon successful completion. Otherwise, it returns -1 and sets *errno* to indicate the error.

**ERRORS**

**getpt()** can fail with various errors described in [open\(2\)](#).

**VERSIONS**

**getpt()** is provided in glibc since version 2.1.

**ATTRIBUTES**

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

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

**CONFORMING TO**

**getpt()** is glibc-specific; use [posix\\_openpt\(3\)](#) instead.

**SEE ALSO**

[grantpt\(3\)](#), [posix\\_openpt\(3\)](#), [ptsname\(3\)](#), [unlockpt\(3\)](#), [ptmx\(4\)](#), [pty\(7\)](#)

**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/>.