

**NAME**

getservent, getservbyname, getservbyport, setservent, endservent - get service entry

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <netdb.h>

struct servent *getservent(void);

struct servent *getservbyname(const char *name, const char *proto);

struct servent *getservbyport(int port, const char *proto);

void setservent(int stayopen);

void endservent(void);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The **getservent()** function reads the next entry from the services database (see [services\(5\)](#)) and returns a *servent* structure containing the broken-out fields from the entry. A connection is opened to the database if necessary.

The **getservbyname()** function returns a *servent* structure for the entry from the database that matches the service *name* using protocol *proto*. If *proto* is NULL, any protocol will be matched. A connection is opened to the database if necessary.

The **getservbyport()** function returns a *servent* structure for the entry from the database that matches the port *port* (given in network byte order) using protocol *proto*. If *proto* is NULL, any protocol will be matched. A connection is opened to the database if necessary.

The **setservent()** function opens a connection to the database, and sets the next entry to the first entry. If *stayopen* is nonzero, then the connection to the database will not be closed between calls to one of the **getserv\*()** functions.

The **endservent()** function closes the connection to the database.

The *servent* structure is defined in *<netdb.h>* as follows:

```
struct servent {
    char *s_name; /* official service name */
    char **s_aliases; /* alias list */
    int s_port; /* port number */
    char *s_proto; /* protocol to use */
}
```

The members of the *servent* structure are:

*s\_name*

The official name of the service.

*s\_aliases*

A NULL-terminated list of alternative names for the service.

*s\_port*

The port number for the service given in network byte order.

*s\_proto*

The name of the protocol to use with this service.

**RETURN VALUE**

The **getservent()**, **getservbyname()** and **getservbyport()** functions return a pointer to a statically allocated *servent* structure, or NULL if an error occurs or the end of the file is reached.

**FILES**

*/etc/services*

services database file

**CONFORMING TO**

4.3BSD, POSIX.1-2001.

**SEE ALSO**

[getnetent\(3\)](#), [getprotoent\(3\)](#), [getservent\\_r\(3\)](#), [services\(5\)](#)

**COLOPHON**

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