

NAME

mq_open - open a message queue

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <fcntl.h> /* For O_* constants */
#include <sys/stat.h> /* For mode constants */
#include <mqueue.h>

mqd_t mq_open(const char *name, int oflag);
mqd_t mq_open(const char *name, int oflag, mode_t mode,
              struct mq_attr *attr);
```

Link with *-lrt*.

DESCRIPTION

mq_open() creates a new POSIX message queue or opens an existing queue. The queue is identified by *name*. For details of the construction of *name*, see [mq_overview\(7\)](#).

The *oflag* argument specifies flags that control the operation of the call. (Definitions of the flags values can be obtained by including *<fcntl.h>*.) Exactly one of the following must be specified in *oflag*:

O_RDONLY

Open the queue to receive messages only.

O_WRONLY

Open the queue to send messages only.

O_RDWR

Open the queue to both send and receive messages.

Zero or more of the following flags can additionally be *ORed* in *oflag*:

O_NONBLOCK

Open the queue in nonblocking mode. In circumstances where [mq_receive\(3\)](#) and [mq_send\(3\)](#) would normally block, these functions instead fail with the error **EAGAIN**.

O_CREAT

Create the message queue if it does not exist. The owner (user ID) of the message queue is set to the effective user ID of the calling process. The group ownership (group ID) is set to the effective group ID of the calling process.

O_EXCL

If **O_CREAT** was specified in *oflag*, and a queue with the given *name* already exists, then fail with the error **EEXIST**.

If **O_CREAT** is specified in *oflag*, then two additional arguments must be supplied. The *mode* argument specifies the permissions to be placed on the new queue, as for [open\(2\)](#). (Symbolic definitions for the permissions bits can be obtained by including *<sys/stat.h>*.) The permissions settings are masked against the process umask.

The *attr* argument specifies attributes for the queue. See [mq_getattr\(3\)](#) for details. If *attr* is **NULL**, then the queue is created with implementation-defined default attributes. Since Linux 3.5, two */proc* files can be used to control these defaults; see [mq_overview\(7\)](#) for details.

RETURN VALUE

On success, **mq_open()** returns a message queue descriptor for use by other message queue functions. On error, **mq_open()** returns (*mqd_t*) *-1*, with *errno* set to indicate the error.

ERRORS**EACCES**

The queue exists, but the caller does not have permission to open it in the specified mode.

EACCES

name contained more than one slash.

EEXIST

Both **O_CREAT** and **O_EXCL** were specified in *oflag*, but a queue with this *name* already exists.

EINVAL

O_CREAT was specified in *oflag*, and *attr* was not NULL, but *attr->mq_maxmsg* or *attr->mq_msgsize* was invalid. Both of these fields must be greater than zero. In a process that is unprivileged (does not have the **CAP_SYS_RESOURCE** capability), *attr->mq_maxmsg* must be less than or equal to the *msg_max* limit, and *attr->mq_msgsize* must be less than or equal to the *msgsize_max* limit. In addition, even in a privileged process, *attr->mq_maxmsg* cannot exceed the **HARD_MAX** limit. (See [mq_overview\(7\)](#) for details of these limits.)

EMFILE

The process already has the maximum number of files and message queues open.

ENAMETOOLONG

name was too long.

ENFILE

The system limit on the total number of open files and message queues has been reached.

ENOENT

The **O_CREAT** flag was not specified in *oflag*, and no queue with this *name* exists.

ENOENT

name was just / followed by no other characters.

ENOMEM

Insufficient memory.

ENOSPC

Insufficient space for the creation of a new message queue. This probably occurred because the *queues_max* limit was encountered; see [mq_overview\(7\)](#).

ATTRIBUTES**Multithreading (see pthreads(7))**

The `mq_open()` function is thread-safe.

CONFORMING TO

POSIX.1-2001.

BUGS

In kernels before 2.6.14, the process umask was not applied to the permissions specified in *mode*.

SEE ALSO

[mq_close\(3\)](#), [mq_getattr\(3\)](#), [mq_notify\(3\)](#), [mq_receive\(3\)](#), [mq_send\(3\)](#), [mq_unlink\(3\)](#), [mq_overview\(7\)](#)

COLOPHON

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