

NAME

nl_langinfo - query language and locale information

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <langinfo.h>
```

```
char *nl_langinfo(nl_item item);
```

DESCRIPTION

The **nl_langinfo()** function provides access to locale information in a more flexible way than **localeconv(3)** does. Individual and additional elements of the locale categories can be queried. **setlocale(3)** needs to be executed with proper arguments before.

Examples for the locale elements that can be specified in *item* using the constants defined in *<langinfo.h>* are:

CODESET (LC_CTYPE)

Return a string with the name of the character encoding used in the selected locale, such as UTF-8, ISO-8859-1, or ANSI_X3.4-1968 (better known as US-ASCII). This is the same string that you get with locale charmap. For a list of character encoding names, try **locale -m**, cf. **locale(1)**.

D_T_FMT (LC_TIME)

Return a string that can be used as a format string for **strftime(3)** to represent time and date in a locale-specific way.

D_FMT (LC_TIME)

Return a string that can be used as a format string for **strftime(3)** to represent a date in a locale-specific way.

T_FMT (LC_TIME)

Return a string that can be used as a format string for **strftime(3)** to represent a time in a locale-specific way.

DAY_{1-7} (LC_TIME)

Return name of the *n*-th day of the week. [Warning: this follows the US convention DAY_1 = Sunday, not the international convention (ISO 8601) that Monday is the first day of the week.]

ABDAY_{1-7} (LC_TIME)

Return abbreviated name of the *n*-th day of the week.

MON_{1-12} (LC_TIME)

Return name of the *n*-th month.

ABMON_{1-12} (LC_TIME)

Return abbreviated name of the *n*-th month.

RADIXCHAR (LC_NUMERIC)

Return radix character (decimal dot, decimal comma, etc.).

THOUSEP (LC_NUMERIC)

Return separator character for thousands (groups of three digits).

YESEXPR (LC_MESSAGES)

Return a regular expression that can be used with the **regex(3)** function to recognize a positive response to a yes/no question.

NOEXPR (LC_MESSAGES)

Return a regular expression that can be used with the **regex(3)** function to recognize a negative response to a yes/no question.

CRNCYSTR (LC_MONETARY)

Return the currency symbol, preceded by - if the symbol should appear before the value, + if the symbol should appear after the value, or . if the symbol should replace the radix

character.

The above list covers just some examples of items that can be requested. For a more detailed list, consult *The GNU C Library Reference Manual*.

RETURN VALUE

If no locale has been selected by [setlocale\(3\)](#) for the appropriate category, `nl_langinfo()` returns a pointer to the corresponding string in the C locale.

If *item* is not valid, a pointer to an empty string is returned.

This pointer may point to static data that may be overwritten on the next call to `nl_langinfo()` or [setlocale\(3\)](#).

CONFORMING TO

SUSv2, POSIX.1-2001.

EXAMPLE

The following program sets the character type and the numeric locale according to the environment and queries the terminal character set and the radix character.

```
#include <langinfo.h>
#include <locale.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int
main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    setlocale(LC_CTYPE, );
    setlocale(LC_NUMERIC, );
    printf("%sn, nl_langinfo(CODESET));
    printf("%sn, nl_langinfo(RADIXCHAR));
    exit(EXIT_SUCCESS);
}
```

SEE ALSO

[locale\(1\)](#), [localeconv\(3\)](#), [setlocale\(3\)](#), [charsets\(7\)](#), [locale\(7\)](#)

The GNU C Library Reference Manual

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/>.