

NAME

getusershell, setusershell, endusershell - get permitted user shells

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <unistd.h>
```

```
char *getusershell(void);
```

```
void setusershell(void);
```

```
void endusershell(void);
```

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see [feature_test_macros\(7\)](#)):

getusershell(), setusershell(), endusershell():

Since glibc 2.21:

```
_DEFAULT_SOURCE
```

In glibc 2.19 and 2.20:

```
_DEFAULT_SOURCE || (_XOPEN_SOURCE && _XOPEN_SOURCE < 500)
```

Up to and including glibc 2.19:

```
_BSD_SOURCE || (_XOPEN_SOURCE && _XOPEN_SOURCE < 500)
```

DESCRIPTION

The **getusershell()** function returns the next line from the file */etc/shells*, opening the file if necessary. The line should contain the pathname of a valid user shell. If */etc/shells* does not exist or is unreadable, **getusershell()** behaves as if */bin/sh* and */bin/csh* were listed in the file.

The **setusershell()** function rewinds */etc/shells*.

The **endusershell()** function closes */etc/shells*.

RETURN VALUE

The **getusershell()** function returns NULL on end-of-file.

FILES

/etc/shells

ATTRIBUTES

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see [attributes\(7\)](#).

Interface	Attribute	Value
getusershell(), setusershell(), endusershell()	Thread safety	MT-Unsafe

CONFORMING TO

4.3BSD.

SEE ALSO

[shells\(5\)](#)

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 4.10 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 <https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/>.