

NAME

uselocale - set/get the locale for the calling thread

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <locale.h>
```

```
locale_t uselocale(locale_t newloc);
```

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

uselocale():

Since glibc 2.10:

```
_XOPEN_SOURCE >= 700
```

Before glibc 2.10:

```
_GNU_SOURCE
```

DESCRIPTION

The **uselocale()** function sets the current locale for the calling thread, and returns the thread's previously current locale. After a successful call to **uselocale()**, any calls by this thread to functions that depend on the locale will operate as though the locale has been set to *newloc*.

The *newloc* argument can have one of the following values:

A handle returned by a call to

[newlocale\(3\)](#) or [duplocale\(3\)](#) The calling thread's current locale is set to the specified locale.

The special locale object handle **LC_GLOBAL_LOCALE**

The calling thread's current locale is set to the global locale determined by [setlocale\(3\)](#).

(*locale_t*) 0

The calling thread's current locale is left unchanged (and the current locale is returned as the function result).

RETURN VALUE

On success, **uselocale()** returns the locale handle that was set by the previous call to **uselocale()** in this thread, or **LC_GLOBAL_HANDLE** if there was no such previous call. On error, it returns (*locale_t*) 0, and sets *errno* to indicate the cause of the error.

ERRORS

EINVAL

newloc does not refer to a valid locale object.

VERSIONS

The **uselocale()** function first appeared in version 2.3 of the GNU C library.

CONFORMING TO

POSIX.1-2008.

NOTES

Unlike [setlocale\(3\)](#), **uselocale()** does not allow selective replacement of individual locale categories. To employ a locale that differs in only a few categories from the current locale, use calls to [duplocale\(3\)](#) and [newlocale\(3\)](#) to obtain a locale object equivalent to the current locale and modify the desired categories in that object.

EXAMPLE

See [newlocale\(3\)](#) and [duplocale\(3\)](#).

SEE ALSO

[locale\(1\)](#), [duplocale\(3\)](#), [freelocale\(3\)](#), [newlocale\(3\)](#), [setlocale\(3\)](#), [locale\(5\)](#), [locale\(7\)](#)

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/>.