

NAME

wprintf, fwprintf, swprintf, vwprintf, vfwprintf, vswprintf - formatted wide-character output conversion

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <wchar.h>

int  wprintf(const wchar_t *format, ...);
int  fwprintf(FILE *stream, const wchar_t *format, ...);
int  swprintf(wchar_t *wcs, size_t maxlen,
             const wchar_t *format, ...);

int  vwprintf(const wchar_t *format, va_list args);
int  vfwprintf(FILE *stream, const wchar_t *format, va_list args);
int  vswprintf(wchar_t *wcs, size_t maxlen,
             const wchar_t *format, va_list args);
```

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

All functions shown above:

```
_XOPEN_SOURCE >= 500 || _ISOC99_SOURCE ||
_POSIX_C_SOURCE >= 200112L
```

DESCRIPTION

The **wprintf()** family of functions is the wide-character equivalent of the [printf\(3\)](#) family of functions. It performs formatted output of wide characters.

The **wprintf()** and **vwprintf()** functions perform wide-character output to *stdout*. *stdout* must not be byte oriented; see [fwide\(3\)](#) for more information.

The **fwprintf()** and **vfwprintf()** functions perform wide-character output to *stream*. *stream* must not be byte oriented; see [fwide\(3\)](#) for more information.

The **swprintf()** and **vswprintf()** functions perform wide-character output to an array of wide characters. The programmer must ensure that there is room for at least *maxlen* wide characters at *wcs*.

These functions are like the [printf\(3\)](#), [vprintf\(3\)](#), [fprintf\(3\)](#), [vfprintf\(3\)](#), [sprintf\(3\)](#), [vsprintf\(3\)](#) functions except for the following differences:

- The *format* string is a wide-character string.
- The output consists of wide characters, not bytes.
- **swprintf()** and **vswprintf()** take a *maxlen* argument, [sprintf\(3\)](#) and [vsprintf\(3\)](#) do not. ([snprintf\(3\)](#) and [vsnprintf\(3\)](#) take a *maxlen* argument, but these functions do not return -1 upon buffer overflow on Linux.)

The treatment of the conversion characters **c** and **s** is different:

- c** If no **I** modifier is present, the *int* argument is converted to a wide character by a call to the [btowc\(3\)](#) function, and the resulting wide character is written. If an **I** modifier is present, the *wint_t* (wide character) argument is written.
- s** If no **I** modifier is present: the *const char ** argument is expected to be a pointer to an array of character type (pointer to a string) containing a multibyte character sequence beginning in the initial shift state. Characters from the array are converted to wide characters (each by a call to the [mbtowc\(3\)](#) function with a conversion state starting in the initial state before the first byte). The resulting wide characters are written up to (but not including) the terminating null wide character (L'\0'). If a precision is specified, no more wide characters than the number specified are written. Note that the precision determines the number of *wide characters* written, not the number of *bytes* or *screen positions*. The array must contain a terminating null byte ('\0'), unless a precision is given and it is so small that the number of converted wide characters reaches it before the end of the array is reached. If an **I** modifier is present: the *const wchar_t ** argument is expected to be a pointer to an array of wide characters. Wide characters from the array are written up to (but not

including) a terminating null wide character. If a precision is specified, no more than the number specified are written. The array must contain a terminating null wide character, unless a precision is given and it is smaller than or equal to the number of wide characters in the array.

RETURN VALUE

The functions return the number of wide characters written, excluding the terminating null wide character in case of the functions **swprintf()** and **vswprintf()**. They return -1 when an error occurs.

ATTRIBUTES

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

Interface	Attribute	Value
wprintf() , fwprintf() , swprintf() , vwprintf() , vfwprintf() , vswprintf()	Thread safety	MT-Safe locale

CONFORMING TO

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, C99.

NOTES

The behavior of **wprintf()** et al. depends on the **LC_CTYPE** category of the current locale.

If the *format* string contains non-ASCII wide characters, the program will work correctly only if the **LC_CTYPE** category of the current locale at run time is the same as the **LC_CTYPE** category of the current locale at compile time. This is because the *wchar_t* representation is platform- and locale-dependent. (The glibc represents wide characters using their Unicode (ISO-10646) code point, but other platforms don't do this. Also, the use of C99 universal character names of the form `\unnnn` does not solve this problem.) Therefore, in internationalized programs, the *format* string should consist of ASCII wide characters only, or should be constructed at run time in an internationalized way (e.g., using [gettext\(3\)](#) or [iconv\(3\)](#), followed by [mbstowcs\(3\)](#)).

SEE ALSO

[fprintf\(3\)](#), [fputwc\(3\)](#), [fwide\(3\)](#), [printf\(3\)](#), [snprintf\(3\)](#)

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/>.