

NAME

IO::Seekable - supply seek based methods for I/O objects

SYNOPSIS

```
use IO::Seekable;
package IO::Something;
@ISA = qw(IO::Seekable);
```

DESCRIPTION

[IO::Seekable](#) does not have a constructor of its own as it is intended to be inherited by other [IO::Handle](#) based objects. It provides methods which allow seeking of the file descriptors.

`$io->getpos`

Returns an opaque value that represents the current position of the [IO::File](#), or `undef` if this is not possible (eg an unseekable stream such as a terminal, pipe or socket). If the `fgetpos()` function is available in your C library it is used to implements `getpos`, else perl emulates `getpos` using C's `ftell()` function.

`$io->setpos`

Uses the value of a previous `getpos` call to return to a previously visited position. Returns "0 but true" on success, `undef` on failure.

See [perlfunc\(1\)](#) for complete descriptions of each of the following supported [IO::Seekable](#) methods, which are just front ends for the corresponding built-in functions:

`$io->seek (POS, WHENCE)`

Seek the [IO::File](#) to position POS, relative to WHENCE:

WHENCE=0 (SEEK_SET)

POS is absolute position. (Seek relative to the start of the file)

WHENCE=1 (SEEK_CUR)

POS is an offset from the current position. (Seek relative to current)

WHENCE=2 (SEEK_END)

POS is an offset from the end of the file. (Seek relative to end)

The `SEEK_*` constants can be imported from the `Fcntl` module if you don't wish to use the numbers 0 1 or 2 in your code.

Returns 1 upon success, 0 otherwise.

`$io->sysseek(POS, WHENCE)`

Similar to `$io->seek`, but sets the [IO::File](#)'s position using the system call [lseek\(2\)](#) directly, so will confuse most perl IO operators except `sysread` and `syswrite` (see [perlfunc\(1\)](#) for full details)

Returns the new position, or `undef` on failure. A position of zero is returned as the string "0 but true"

`$io->tell`

Returns the [IO::File](#)'s current position, or -1 on error.

SEE ALSO

[perlfunc\(1\)](#), "I/O Operators" in [perlop\(1\)](#), [IO::Handle](#) [IO::File](#)

HISTORY

Derived from `FileHandle.pm` by Graham Barr <gbarr@pobox.com>