

NAME

SSL_free - free an allocated SSL structure

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <openssl/ssl.h>
```

```
void SSL_free(SSL *ssl);
```

DESCRIPTION

SSL_free() decrements the reference count of **ssl**, and removes the SSL structure pointed to by **ssl** and frees up the allocated memory if the reference count has reached 0. If **ssl** is NULL nothing is done.

NOTES

SSL_free() also calls the *free()*ing procedures for indirectly affected items, if applicable: the buffering BIO, the read and write BIOs, cipher lists specially created for this **ssl**, the **SSL_SESSION**. Do not explicitly free these indirectly freed up items before or after calling *SSL_free()*, as trying to free things twice may lead to program failure.

The **ssl** session has reference counts from two users: the SSL object, for which the reference count is removed by *SSL_free()* and the internal session cache. If the session is considered bad, because *SSL_shutdown(3)* was not called for the connection and *SSL_set_shutdown(3)* was not used to set the **SSL_SENT_SHUTDOWN** state, the session will also be removed from the session cache as required by RFC2246.

RETURN VALUES

SSL_free() does not provide diagnostic information.

SSL_new(3), *SSL_clear(3)*, *SSL_shutdown(3)*, *SSL_set_shutdown(3)*, *ssl(3)*

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