

**NAME**

tty - controlling terminal

**DESCRIPTION**

The file `/dev/tty` is a character file with major number 5 and minor number 0, usually of mode 0666 and owner.group root.tty. It is a synonym for the controlling terminal of a process, if any.

In addition to the [ioctl\(2\)](#) requests supported by the device that **tty** refers to, the [ioctl\(2\)](#) request **TIOCNOTTY** is supported.

**TIOCNOTTY**

Detach the calling process from its controlling terminal.

If the process is the session leader, then **SIGHUP** and **SIGCONT** signals are sent to the foreground process group and all processes in the current session lose their controlling tty.

This [ioctl\(2\)](#) call works only on file descriptors connected to `/dev/tty`. It is used by daemon processes when they are invoked by a user at a terminal. The process attempts to open `/dev/tty`. If the open succeeds, it detaches itself from the terminal by using **TIOCNOTTY**, while if the open fails, it is obviously not attached to a terminal and does not need to detach itself.

**FILES**

`/dev/tty`

**SEE ALSO**

[chown\(1\)](#), [mknod\(1\)](#), [ioctl\(2\)](#), [termios\(3\)](#), [console\\_ioctl\(4\)](#), [tty\\_ioctl\(4\)](#), [ttyS\(4\)](#), [agetty\(8\)](#), [mingetty\(8\)](#)

**COLOPHON**

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