



fread/fwrite(3)

NAME      fread, fwrite – binary stream input/output

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <stdio.h>

size_t fread(void *ptr, size_t size, size_t nmemb, FILE *stream);
size_t fwrite(const void *ptr, size_t size, size_t nmemb,
             FILE *stream);
```

DESCRIPTION

The function **fread()** reads *nmemb* elements of data, each *size* bytes long, from the stream pointed to by *stream*, storing them at the location given by *ptr*.

The function **fwrite()** writes *nmemb* elements of data, each *size* bytes long, to the stream pointed to by *stream*, obtaining them from the location given by *ptr*.

For non-locking counterparts, see **unlocked\_stdio(3)**.

RETURN VALUE

**fread()** and **fwrite()** return the number of items successfully read or written (i.e., not the number of characters). If an error occurs, or the end-of-file is reached, the return value is a short item count (or zero).

**fread()** does not distinguish between end-of-file and error, and callers must use **feof(3)** and **errno(3)** to determine which occurred.

CONFORMING TO

C89, POSIX.1-2001.

SEE ALSO

**read(2)**, **write(2)**, **feof(3)**, **fferror(3)**, **unlocked\_stdio(3)**