

**NAME**

`fclose` – close a stream

**SYNOPSIS**

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

```
int fclose(FILE *stream);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The **fclose()** function flushes the stream pointed to by *stream* (writing any buffered output data using **fflush(3)**) and closes the underlying file descriptor.

The behaviour of **fclose()** is undefined if the *stream* parameter is an illegal pointer, or is a descriptor already passed to a previous invocation of **fclose()**.

**RETURN VALUE**

Upon successful completion, 0 is returned. Otherwise, **EOF** is returned and *errno* is set to indicate the error. In either case, any further access (including another call to **fclose()**) to the stream results in undefined behavior.

**ERRORS****EBADF**

The file descriptor underlying *stream* is not valid.

The **fclose()** function may also fail and set *errno* for any of the errors specified for the routines **close(2)**, **write(2)**, or **fflush(3)**.

**ATTRIBUTES**

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see **attributes(7)**.

Interface	Attribute	Value
<b>fclose()</b>	Thread safety	MT-Safe

**CONFORMING TO**

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, C89, C99.

**NOTES**

Note that **fclose()** flushes only the user-space buffers provided by the C library. To ensure that the data is physically stored on disk the kernel buffers must be flushed too, for example, with **sync(2)** or **fsync(2)**.

**SEE ALSO**

**close(2)**, **fcloseall(3)**, **fflush(3)**, **fileno(3)**, **fopen(3)**, **setbuf(3)**

**COLOPHON**

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