

**NAME**

`removexattr`, `lremovexattr`, `fremovexattr` – remove an extended attribute

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/xattr.h>

int removexattr(const char *path, const char *name);
int lremovexattr(const char *path, const char *name);
int fremovexattr(int fd, const char *name);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

Extended attributes are *name:value* pairs associated with inodes (files, directories, symbolic links, etc.). They are extensions to the normal attributes which are associated with all inodes in the system (i.e., the **stat(2)** data). A complete overview of extended attributes concepts can be found in **xattr(7)**.

**removexattr()** removes the extended attribute identified by *name* and associated with the given *path* in the filesystem.

**lremovexattr()** is identical to **removexattr()**, except in the case of a symbolic link, where the extended attribute is removed from the link itself, not the file that it refers to.

**fremovexattr()** is identical to **removexattr()**, only the extended attribute is removed from the open file referred to by *fd* (as returned by **open(2)**) in place of *path*.

An extended attribute name is a null-terminated string. The *name* includes a namespace prefix; there may be several, disjoint namespaces associated with an individual inode.

**RETURN VALUE**

On success, zero is returned. On failure, `-1` is returned and *errno* is set appropriately.

**ERRORS****ENODATA**

The named attribute does not exist.

**ENOTSUP**

Extended attributes are not supported by the filesystem, or are disabled.

In addition, the errors documented in **stat(2)** can also occur.

**VERSIONS**

These system calls have been available on Linux since kernel 2.4; glibc support is provided since version 2.3.

**CONFORMING TO**

These system calls are Linux-specific.

**SEE ALSO**

**getfattr(1)**, **setfattr(1)**, **getxattr(2)**, **listxattr(2)**, **open(2)**, **setxattr(2)**, **stat(2)**, **symlink(7)**, **xattr(7)**

**COLOPHON**

This page is part of release 5.02 of the Linux *man-pages* project. A description of the project, information about reporting bugs, and the latest version of this page, can be found at <https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/>.