

**NAME**

`fflush` – flush a stream

**SYNOPSIS**

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

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

**DESCRIPTION**

For output streams, **fflush()** forces a write of all user-space buffered data for the given output or update *stream* via the stream's underlying write function.

For input streams associated with seekable files (e.g., disk files, but not pipes or terminals), **fflush()** discards any buffered data that has been fetched from the underlying file, but has not been consumed by the application.

The open status of the stream is unaffected.

If the *stream* argument is `NULL`, **fflush()** flushes *all* open output streams.

For a nonlocking counterpart, see **unlocked\_stdio(3)**.

**RETURN VALUE**

Upon successful completion 0 is returned. Otherwise, **EOF** is returned and *errno* is set to indicate the error.

**ERRORS****EBADF**

*stream* is not an open stream, or is not open for writing.

The function **fflush()** may also fail and set *errno* for any of the errors specified for **write(2)**.

**ATTRIBUTES**

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

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

**CONFORMING TO**

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

POSIX.1-2001 did not specify the behavior for flushing of input streams, but the behavior is specified in POSIX.1-2008.

**NOTES**

Note that **fflush()** 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**

**fsync(2)**, **sync(2)**, **write(2)**, **fclose(3)**, **fileno(3)**, **fopen(3)**, **setbuf(3)**, **unlocked\_stdio(3)**

**COLOPHON**

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