

NAME

fchownat – change ownership of a file relative to a directory file descriptor

SYNOPSIS

```
#define _ATFILE_SOURCE
#include <fcntl.h> /* Definition of AT_* constants */
#include <unistd.h>
```

```
int fchownat(int dirfd, const char *pathname,
             uid_t owner, gid_t group, int flags);
```

DESCRIPTION

The **fchownat()** system call operates in exactly the same way as **chown(2)**, except for the differences described in this manual page.

If the *pathname* given in *pathname* is relative, then it is interpreted relative to the directory referred to by the file descriptor *dirfd* (rather than relative to the current working directory of the calling process, as is done by **chown(2)** for a relative *pathname*).

If *pathname* is relative and *dirfd* is the special value **AT_FDCWD**, then *pathname* is interpreted relative to the current working directory of the calling process (like **chown(2)**).

If *pathname* is absolute, then *dirfd* is ignored.

flags can either be 0, or include the following flag:

AT_SYMLINK_NOFOLLOW

If *pathname* is a symbolic link, do not dereference it: instead operate on the link itself, like **lchown(2)**. (By default, **fchownat()** dereferences symbolic links, like **chown(2)**.)

RETURN VALUE

On success, **fchownat()** returns 0. On error, **-1** is returned and *errno* is set to indicate the error.

ERRORS

The same errors that occur for **chown(2)** can also occur for **fchownat()**. The following additional errors can occur for **fchownat()**:

EBADF

dirfd is not a valid file descriptor.

EINVAL

Invalid flag specified in *flags*.

ENOTDIR

pathname is relative and *dirfd* is a file descriptor referring to a file other than a directory.

VERSIONS

fchownat() was added to Linux in kernel 2.6.16.

CONFORMING TO

POSIX.1-2008. A similar system call exists on Solaris.

NOTES

See **openat(2)** for an explanation of the need for **fchownat()**.

SEE ALSO

chown(2), **openat(2)**, **path_resolution(7)**, **symlink(7)**

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 3.22 of the Linux *man-pages* project. A description of the project, and information about reporting bugs, can be found at <http://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/>.