

**NAME**

**ipc** – System V IPC system calls

**SYNOPSIS**

```
int ipc(unsigned int call, int first, int second, int third,  
        void *ptr, long fifth);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

**ipc()** is a common kernel entry point for the System V IPC calls for messages, semaphores, and shared memory. *call* determines which IPC function to invoke; the other arguments are passed through to the appropriate call.

User programs should call the appropriate functions by their usual names. Only standard library implementors and kernel hackers need to know about **ipc()**.

**CONFORMING TO**

**ipc()** is Linux-specific, and should not be used in programs intended to be portable.

**NOTES**

On a few architectures, for example ia64, there is no **ipc()** system call; instead **msgctl(2)**, **semctl(2)**, **shmctl(2)**, and so on really are implemented as separate system calls.

**SEE ALSO**

**msgctl(2)**, **msgget(2)**, **msgrcv(2)**, **msgsnd(2)**, **semctl(2)**, **semget(2)**, **semop(2)**, **semtimedop(2)**, **shmat(2)**, **shmctl(2)**, **shmdt(2)**, **shmget(2)**

**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/>.