

# :c:type: `uv\_handle\_t` --- Base handle

**System Message: ERROR/3** (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\node-master\deps\uv\docs\src\ (node-master) (deps) (uv) (docs) (src) handle.rst, line 4); [backlink](#)

Unknown interpreted text role "c:type".

`uv_handle_t` is the base type for all libuv handle types.

Structures are aligned so that any libuv handle can be cast to `uv_handle_t`. All API functions defined here work with any handle type.

Libuv handles are not movable. Pointers to handle structures passed to functions must remain valid for the duration of the requested operation. Take care when using stack allocated handles.

## Data types

**System Message: ERROR/3** (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\node-master\deps\uv\docs\src\ (node-master) (deps) (uv) (docs) (src) handle.rst, line 19)

Unknown directive type "c:type".

```
.. c:type:: uv_handle_t
```

The base libuv handle type.

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Unknown directive type "c:enum".

```
.. c:enum:: uv_handle_type
```

The kind of the libuv handle.

```
::
```

```
typedef enum {
    UV_UNKNOWN_HANDLE = 0,
    UV_ASYNC,
    UV_CHECK,
    UV_FS_EVENT,
    UV_FS_POLL,
    UV_HANDLE,
    UV_IDLE,
    UV_NAMED_PIPE,
    UV_POLL,
    UV_PREPARE,
    UV_PROCESS,
    UV_STREAM,
    UV_TCP,
    UV_TIMER,
    UV_TTY,
    UV_UDP,
    UV_SIGNAL,
    UV_FILE,
    UV_HANDLE_TYPE_MAX
} uv_handle_type;
```

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Unknown directive type "c:type".

```
.. c:type:: uv_any_handle
```

Union of all handle types.

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Unknown directive type "c.type".

```
.. c:type:: void (*uv_alloc_cb)(uv_handle_t* handle, size_t suggested_size, uv_buf_t* buf)
```

Type definition for callback passed to :c:func:`uv\_read\_start` and :c:func:`uv\_udp\_rcv\_start`. The user must allocate memory and fill the supplied :c:type:`uv\_buf\_t` structure. If NULL is assigned as the buffer's base or 0 as its length, a ``UV\_ENOBUFS`` error will be triggered in the :c:type:`uv\_udp\_rcv\_cb` or the :c:type:`uv\_read\_cb` callback.

Each buffer is used only once and the user is responsible for freeing it in the :c:type:`uv\_udp\_rcv\_cb` or the :c:type:`uv\_read\_cb` callback.

A suggested size (65536 at the moment in most cases) is provided, but it's just an indication, not related in any way to the pending data to be read. The user is free to allocate the amount of memory they decide.

As an example, applications with custom allocation schemes such as using freelists, allocation pools or slab based allocators may decide to use a different size which matches the memory chunks they already have.

Example:

```
::

static void my_alloc_cb(uv_handle_t* handle, size_t suggested_size, uv_buf_t* buf) {
    buf->base = malloc(suggested_size);
    buf->len = suggested_size;
}
```

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Unknown directive type "c.type".

```
.. c:type:: void (*uv_close_cb)(uv_handle_t* handle)
```

Type definition for callback passed to :c:func:`uv\_close`.

## Public members

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\node-master\deps\uv\docs\src\ (node-master) (deps) (uv) (docs) (src)handle.rst, line 91)**

Unknown directive type "c.member".

```
.. c:member:: uv_loop_t* uv_handle_t.loop
```

Pointer to the :c:type:`uv\_loop\_t` the handle is running on. Readonly.

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\node-master\deps\uv\docs\src\ (node-master) (deps) (uv) (docs) (src)handle.rst, line 95)**

Unknown directive type "c.member".

```
.. c:member:: uv_handle_type uv_handle_t.type
```

The :c:type:`uv\_handle\_type`, indicating the type of the underlying handle. Readonly.

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Unknown directive type "c.member".

```
.. c:member:: void* uv_handle_t.data
```

Space for user-defined arbitrary data. libuv does not use this field.

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Unknown directive type "c:macro".

```
.. c:macro:: UV_HANDLE_TYPE_MAP(iter_macro)
```

Macro that expands to a series of invocations of ``iter_macro`` for each of the handle types. ``iter_macro`` is invoked with two arguments: the name of the ``uv_handle_type`` element without the ``UV_`` prefix, and the name of the corresponding structure type without the ``uv_`` prefix and ``_t`` suffix.

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Unknown directive type "c:function".

```
.. c:function:: int uv_is_active(const uv_handle_t* handle)
```

Returns non-zero if the handle is active, zero if it's inactive. What "active" means depends on the type of handle:

- A `uv_async_t` handle is always active and cannot be deactivated, except by closing it with `uv_close()`.
- A `uv_pipe_t`, `uv_tcp_t`, `uv_udp_t`, etc. handle - basically any handle that deals with i/o - is active when it is doing something that involves i/o, like reading, writing, connecting, accepting new connections, etc.
- A `uv_check_t`, `uv_idle_t`, `uv_timer_t`, etc. handle is active when it has been started with a call to `uv_check_start()`, `uv_idle_start()`, etc.

Rule of thumb: if a handle of type ``uv_foo_t`` has a ``uv_foo_start()`` function, then it's active from the moment that function is called. Likewise, ``uv_foo_stop()`` deactivates the handle again.

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Unknown directive type "c:function".

```
.. c:function:: int uv_is_closing(const uv_handle_t* handle)
```

Returns non-zero if the handle is closing or closed, zero otherwise.

```
.. note::
    This function should only be used between the initialization of the handle and the
    arrival of the close callback.
```

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Unknown directive type "c:function".

```
.. c:function:: void uv_close(uv_handle_t* handle, uv_close_cb close_cb)
```

Request handle to be closed. ``close_cb`` will be called asynchronously after this call. This MUST be called on each handle before memory is released. Moreover, the memory can only be released in ``close_cb`` or after it has returned.

Handles that wrap file descriptors are closed immediately but ``close_cb`` will still be deferred to the next iteration of the event loop. It gives you a chance to free up any resources associated with the handle.

In-progress requests, like `uv_connect_t` or `uv_write_t`, are cancelled and have their callbacks called asynchronously with status=`UV_ECANCELED`.

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Unknown directive type "c:function".

```
.. c:function:: void uv_ref(uv_handle_t* handle)
```

Reference the given handle. References are idempotent, that is, if a handle is already referenced calling this function again will have no effect.

See :ref:`refcount`.

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Unknown directive type "c:function".

```
.. c:function:: void uv_unref(uv_handle_t* handle)
```

Un-reference the given handle. References are idempotent, that is, if a handle is not referenced calling this function again will have no effect.

See :ref:`refcount`.

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\node-master\deps\uv\docs\src\ (node-master) (deps) (uv) (docs) (src) handle.rst, line 170)**

Unknown directive type "c:function".

```
.. c:function:: int uv_has_ref(const uv_handle_t* handle)
```

Returns non-zero if the handle referenced, zero otherwise.

See :ref:`refcount`.

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Unknown directive type "c:function".

```
.. c:function:: size_t uv_handle_size(uv_handle_type type)
```

Returns the size of the given handle type. Useful for FFI binding writers who don't want to know the structure layout.

## Miscellaneous API functions

The following API functions take a :c:type:`uv\_handle\_t` argument but they work just for some handle types.

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Unknown interpreted text role "c:type".

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\node-master\deps\uv\docs\src\ (node-master) (deps) (uv) (docs) (src) handle.rst, line 188)**

Unknown directive type "c:function".

```
.. c:function:: int uv_send_buffer_size(uv_handle_t* handle, int* value)
```

Gets or sets the size of the send buffer that the operating system uses for the socket.

If ``\*value` == 0, then it will set ``\*value` to the current send buffer size. If ``\*value` > 0 then it will use ``\*value` to set the new send buffer size.

On success, zero is returned. On error, a negative result is returned.

This function works for TCP, pipe and UDP handles on Unix and for TCP and UDP handles on Windows.

.. note::

Linux will set double the size and return double the size of the original set value.

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Unknown directive type "c:function".

```
.. c:function:: int uv_recv_buffer_size(uv_handle_t* handle, int* value)

    Gets or sets the size of the receive buffer that the operating
    system uses for the socket.

    If ``*value`` == 0, then it will set ``*value`` to the current receive buffer size.
    If ``*value`` > 0 then it will use ``*value`` to set the new receive buffer size.

    On success, zero is returned. On error, a negative result is
    returned.

    This function works for TCP, pipe and UDP handles on Unix and for TCP and
    UDP handles on Windows.

.. note::
    Linux will set double the size and return double the size of the original set value.
```

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Unknown directive type "c:function".

```
.. c:function:: int uv_fileno(const uv_handle_t* handle, uv_os_fd_t* fd)

    Gets the platform dependent file descriptor equivalent.

    The following handles are supported: TCP, pipes, TTY, UDP and poll. Passing
    any other handle type will fail with ``UV_EINVAL``.

    If a handle doesn't have an attached file descriptor yet or the handle
    itself has been closed, this function will return ``UV_EBADF``.

.. warning::
    Be very careful when using this function. libuv assumes it's in control of the file
    descriptor so any change to it may lead to malfunction.
```

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Unknown directive type "c:function".

```
.. c:function:: uv_loop_t* uv_handle_get_loop(const uv_handle_t* handle)

    Returns ``handle->loop``.

.. versionadded:: 1.19.0
```

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Unknown directive type "c:function".

```
.. c:function:: void* uv_handle_get_data(const uv_handle_t* handle)

    Returns ``handle->data``.

.. versionadded:: 1.19.0
```

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Unknown directive type "c:function".

```
.. c:function:: void* uv_handle_set_data(uv_handle_t* handle, void* data)

    Sets ``handle->data`` to ``data``.

.. versionadded:: 1.19.0
```

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\node-master\deps\uv\docs\src\ (node-master) (deps) (uv) (docs) (src) handle.rst, line 254)**

Unknown directive type "c:function".

```
.. c:function:: uv_handle_type uv_handle_get_type(const uv_handle_t* handle)

    Returns `handle->type`.

    .. versionadded:: 1.19.0
```

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\node-master\deps\uv\docs\src\ (node-master) (deps) (uv) (docs) (src) handle.rst, line 260)**

Unknown directive type "c:function".

```
.. c:function:: const char* uv_handle_type_name(uv_handle_type type)

    Returns the name for the equivalent struct for a given handle type,
    e.g. `"pipe"` (as in :c:type:`uv_pipe_t`) for `UV_NAMED_PIPE`.

    If no such handle type exists, this returns `NULL`.

    .. versionadded:: 1.19.0
```

## Reference counting

The libuv event loop (if run in the default mode) will run until there are no active *and* referenced handles left. The user can force the loop to exit early by unreferencing handles which are active, for example by calling :c:func:`uv\_unref` after calling :c:func:`uv\_timer\_start`.

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Unknown interpreted text role "c:func".

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Unknown interpreted text role "c:func".

A handle can be referenced or unreferenced, the refcounting scheme doesn't use a counter, so both operations are idempotent.

All handles are referenced when active by default, see :c:func:`uv\_is\_active` for a more detailed explanation on what being *active* involves.

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\node-master\deps\uv\docs\src\ (node-master) (deps) (uv) (docs) (src) handle.rst, line 282); [backlink](#)**

Unknown interpreted text role "c:func".