

# :mod:`syslog` --- Unix syslog library routines

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\cpython-main\Doc\library\ (cpython-main) (Doc) (library) syslog.rst, line 1); [backlink](#)**

Unknown interpreted text role "mod".

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\cpython-main\Doc\library\ (cpython-main) (Doc) (library) syslog.rst, line 4)**

Unknown directive type "module".

```
.. module:: syslog
   :platform: Unix
   :synopsis: An interface to the Unix syslog library routines.
```

This module provides an interface to the Unix `syslog` library routines. Refer to the Unix manual pages for a detailed description of the `syslog` facility.

This module wraps the system `syslog` family of routines. A pure Python library that can speak to a syslog server is available in the `mod:`logging.handlers`` module as `class:`SysLogHandler``.

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The module defines the following functions:

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Unknown directive type "function".

```
.. function:: syslog(message)
              syslog(priority, message)

Send the string *message* to the system logger. A trailing newline is added
if necessary. Each message is tagged with a priority composed of a
*facility* and a *level*. The optional *priority* argument, which defaults
to :const:`LOG_INFO`, determines the message priority. If the facility is
not encoded in *priority* using logical-or (`LOG_INFO | LOG_USER`), the
value given in the :func:`openlog` call is used.

If :func:`openlog` has not been called prior to the call to :func:`syslog`,
`openlog()` will be called with no arguments.

.. audit-event:: syslog.syslog priority,message syslog.syslog
```

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Unknown directive type "function".

```
.. function:: openlog([ident[, logoption[, facility]])

Logging options of subsequent :func:`syslog` calls can be set by calling
:func:`openlog`. :func:`syslog` will call :func:`openlog` with no arguments
if the log is not currently open.

The optional *ident* keyword argument is a string which is prepended to every
message, and defaults to `sys.argv[0]` with leading path components
```

stripped. The optional `*logoption*` keyword argument (default is 0) is a bit field -- see below for possible values to combine. The optional `*facility*` keyword argument (default is `:const:'LOG_USER'`) sets the default facility for messages which do not have a facility explicitly encoded.

```
.. audit-event:: syslog.openlog ident,logoption,facility syslog.openlog

.. versionchanged:: 3.2
    In previous versions, keyword arguments were not allowed, and *ident* was
    required. The default for *ident* was dependent on the system libraries,
    and often was `python` instead of the name of the Python program file.
```

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Unknown directive type "function".

```
.. function:: closelog()
```

Reset the syslog module values and call the system library ``closelog()``.

This causes the module to behave as it does when initially imported. For example, `:func:'openlog'` will be called on the first `:func:'syslog'` call (if `:func:'openlog'` hasn't already been called), and `*ident*` and other `:func:'openlog'` parameters are reset to defaults.

```
.. audit-event:: syslog.closelog "" syslog.closelog
```

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Unknown directive type "function".

```
.. function:: setlogmask(maskpri)
```

Set the priority mask to `*maskpri*` and return the previous mask value. Calls to `:func:'syslog'` with a priority level not set in `*maskpri*` are ignored. The default is to log all priorities. The function ``LOG_MASK(pri)`` calculates the mask for the individual priority `*pri*`. The function ``LOG_UPTO(pri)`` calculates the mask for all priorities up to and including `*pri*`.

```
.. audit-event:: syslog.setlogmask maskpri syslog.setlogmask
```

The module defines the following constants:

Priority levels (high to low):

```
:const:'LOG_EMERG', :const:'LOG_ALERT', :const:'LOG_CRIT', :const:'LOG_ERR', :const:'LOG_WARNING',
:const:'LOG_NOTICE', :const:'LOG_INFO', :const:'LOG_DEBUG'.
```

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Facilities:

:const:'LOG\_KERN', :const:'LOG\_USER', :const:'LOG\_MAIL', :const:'LOG\_DAEMON', :const:'LOG\_AUTH', :const:'LOG\_LPR', :const:'LOG\_NEWS', :const:'LOG\_UUCP', :const:'LOG\_CRON', :const:'LOG\_SYSLOG', :const:'LOG\_LOCAL0' to :const:'LOG\_LOCAL7', and, if defined in <syslog.h>, :const:'LOG\_AUTHPRIV'.

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Unknown interpreted text role "const".

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Unknown interpreted text role "const".

Log options:

:const:'LOG\_PID', :const:'LOG\_CONS', :const:'LOG\_NDELAY', and, if defined in <syslog.h>,  
:const:'LOG\_ODELAY', :const:'LOG\_NOWAIT', and :const:'LOG\_PERROR'.

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## Examples

### Simple example

A simple set of examples:

```
import syslog

syslog.syslog('Processing started')
if error:
    syslog.syslog(syslog.LOG_ERR, 'Processing started')
```

An example of setting some log options, these would include the process ID in logged messages, and write the messages to the destination facility used for mail logging:

```
syslog.openlog(logoption=syslog.LOG_PID, facility=syslog.LOG_MAIL)
syslog.syslog('E-mail processing initiated...')
```