

## NAME

netdb.h - definitions for network database operations

## SYNOPSIS

```
#include <netdb.h>
```

## DESCRIPTION

The <netdb.h> header may make available the type **in\_port\_t** and the type **in\_addr\_t** as defined in the description of [<netinet/in.h>](#).

The <netdb.h> header defines the **hostent** structure that includes at least the following members:

```
char *h_name      Official name of the host.
char **h_aliases  A pointer to an array of pointers to alternative host names,
                  terminated by a null pointer.
int   h_addrtype  Address type.
int   h_length    The length, in bytes, of the address.
char **h_addr_list A pointer to an array of pointers to network addresses (in
                  network byte order) for the host, terminated by a null pointer.
```

The <netdb.h> header defines the **netent** structure that includes at least the following members:

```
char *n_name      Official, fully-qualified (including the domain) name of the host.
char **n_aliases  A pointer to an array of pointers to alternative network names,
                  terminated by a null pointer.
int   n_addrtype  The address type of the network.
uint32_t n_net     The network number, in host byte order.
```

The `uint_32_t` type is made available by inclusion of <inttypes.h> (see referenced document **XSH**).

The <netdb.h> header defines the **protoent** structure that includes at least the following members:

```
char *p_name      Official name of the protocol.
char **p_aliases  A pointer to an array of pointers to alternative protocol names,
                  terminated by a null pointer.
int   p_proto     The protocol number.
```

The <netdb.h> header defines the **servent** structure that includes at least the following members:

```
char *s_name      Official name of the service.
char **s_aliases  A pointer to an array of pointers to alternative service names,
                  terminated by a null pointer.
int   s_port      The port number at which the service resides, in network byte order.
char *s_proto     The name of the protocol to use when contacting the service.
```

The <netdb.h> header defines the macro IPPORT\_RESERVED with the value of the highest reserved Internet port number.

The <netdb.h> header provides a declaration of *h\_errno* as a modifiable l-value of type **int**. For example:

```
extern int h_errno;
```

The <netdb.h> header defines the following macros for use as error values for [gethostbyaddr\(\)](#) and [gethostbyname\(\)](#):

```
HOST_NOT_FOUND
NO_DATA
NO_RECOVERY
TRY_AGAIN
```

The following are declared as functions, and may also be defined as macros:

```
void          endhostent(void);
void          endnetent(void);
void          endprotoent(void);
void          endservent(void);
struct hostent *gethostbyaddr(const void *addr, size_t len, int type);
struct hostent *gethostbyname(const char *name);
struct hostent *gethostent(void);
struct netent *getnetbyaddr(uint32_t net, int type);
struct netent *getnetbyname(const char *name);
struct netent *getnetent(void);
struct protoent *getprotobyname(const char *name);
struct protoent *getprotobynumber(int proto);
struct protoent *getprotoent(void);
struct servent *getservbyname(const char *name, const char *proto);
struct servent *getservbyport(int port, const char *proto);
struct servent *getservent(void);
void          sethostent(int stayopen);
void          setnetent(int stayopen);
void          setprotoent(int stayopen);
void          setservent(int stayopen);
```

Inclusion of the <netdb.h> header may also make visible all symbols from [<netinet/in.h>](#) and [<inttypes.h>](#).

## SEE ALSO

[endhostent\(\)](#), [endnetent\(\)](#), [endprotoent\(\)](#), [endservent\(\)](#).

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