

ASPRINTF(3)

ASPRINTF(3) Linux Programmer's Manual ASPRINTF(3)

NAME

asprintf, vasprintf - print to allocated string

SYNOPSIS

```
#define __GNU_SOURCE /* See feature_test_macros(7) */
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
int asprintf(char **strp, const char *fmt, ...);
```

```
int vasprintf(char **strp, const char *fmt, va_listap);
```

DESCRIPTION

The functions **asprintf()** and **vasprintf()** are analogs of **sprintf(3)** and **vsprintf(3)**, except that they allocate a string large enough to hold the output including the terminating null byte ('\0'), and return a pointer to it via the first argument. This pointer should be passed to **free(3)** to release the allocated storage when it is no longer needed.

RETURN VALUE

When successful, these functions return the number of bytes printed, just like **sprintf**(3). If memory allocation wasn't possible, or some other error occurs, these functions will return -1, and the contents of strp is undefined.

CONFORMING TO

These functions are GNU extensions, not in C or POSIX. They are also available under *BSD. The FreeBSD implementation sets strp to NULL on error.

SEE ALSO

free(3), **malloc**(3), **printf**(3)

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 3.54 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/>.

2013-06-21 GNU
