

NAME

fclose – close a stream

LIBRARY

Standard C library (*libc*, *-lc*)

SYNOPSIS

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

```
int fclose(FILE *stream);
```

DESCRIPTION

The **fclose()** function flushes the stream pointed to by *stream* (writing any buffered output data using **fflush(3)**) and closes the underlying file descriptor.

RETURN VALUE

Upon successful completion, 0 is returned. Otherwise, **EOF** is returned and *errno* is set to indicate the error. In either case, any further access (including another call to **fclose()**) to the stream results in undefined behavior.

ERRORS**EBADF**

The file descriptor underlying *stream* is not valid.

The **fclose()** function may also fail and set *errno* for any of the errors specified for the routines **close(2)**, **write(2)**, or **fflush(3)**.

ATTRIBUTES

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see **attributes(7)**.

Interface	Attribute	Value
fclose()	Thread safety	MT-Safe

STANDARDS

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, C99.

NOTES

Note that **fclose()** flushes only the user-space buffers provided by the C library. To ensure that the data is physically stored on disk the kernel buffers must be flushed too, for example, with **sync(2)** or **fsync(2)**.

SEE ALSO

close(2), **fcloseall(3)**, **fflush(3)**, **fileno(3)**, **fopen(3)**, **setbuf(3)**