

**NAME**

tmpfile – create a temporary file

**LIBRARY**

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

**SYNOPSIS**

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

```
FILE *tmpfile(void);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The **tmpfile()** function opens a unique temporary file in binary read/write (w+b) mode. The file will be automatically deleted when it is closed or the program terminates.

**RETURN VALUE**

The **tmpfile()** function returns a stream descriptor, or NULL if a unique filename cannot be generated or the unique file cannot be opened. In the latter case, *errno* is set to indicate the error.

**ERRORS****EACCES**

Search permission denied for directory in file's path prefix.

**EEXIST**

Unable to generate a unique filename.

**EINTR**

The call was interrupted by a signal; see **signal(7)**.

**EMFILE**

The per-process limit on the number of open file descriptors has been reached.

**ENFILE**

The system-wide limit on the total number of open files has been reached.

**ENOSPC**

There was no room in the directory to add the new filename.

**EROFS**

Read-only filesystem.

**ATTRIBUTES**

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

Interface	Attribute	Value
tmpfile()	Thread safety	MT-Safe

**STANDARDS**

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, C99, SVr4, 4.3BSD, SUSv2.

**NOTES**

POSIX.1-2001 specifies: an error message may be written to *stdout* if the stream cannot be opened.

The standard does not specify the directory that **tmpfile()** will use. glibc will try the path prefix *P\_tmpdir* defined in *<stdio.h>*, and if that fails, then the directory */tmp*.

**SEE ALSO**

**exit(3)**, **mkstemp(3)**, **mktemp(3)**, **tempnam(3)**, **tmpnam(3)**