

**NAME**

wctype – determine columns needed for a wide character

**LIBRARY**

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

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#define _XOPEN_SOURCE    /* See feature_test_macros(7) */
#include <wctype.h>

int wctype(wchar_t c);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The **wctype()** function returns the number of columns needed to represent the wide character *c*. If *c* is a printable wide character, the value is at least 0. If *c* is null wide character (L'\0'), the value is 0. Otherwise, -1 is returned.

**RETURN VALUE**

The **wctype()** function returns the number of column positions for *c*.

**ATTRIBUTES**

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

Interface	Attribute	Value
<b>wctype()</b>	Thread safety	MT-Safe locale

**STANDARDS**

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

Note that before glibc 2.2.5, glibc used the prototype

```
int wctype(wint_t c);
```

**NOTES**

The behavior of **wctype()** depends on the **LC\_CTYPE** category of the current locale.

**SEE ALSO**

**iswprint(3)**, **wcswidth(3)**