

NAME

difftime – calculate time difference

LIBRARY

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

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <time.h>
```

```
double difftime(time_t time1, time_t time0);
```

DESCRIPTION

The **difftime()** function returns the number of seconds elapsed between time *time1* and time *time0*, represented as a *double*. Each of the times is specified in calendar time, which means its value is a measurement (in seconds) relative to the Epoch, 1970-01-01 00:00:00 +0000 (UTC).

ATTRIBUTES

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

Interface	Attribute	Value
difftime()	Thread safety	MT-Safe

STANDARDS

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

NOTES

On a POSIX system, *time_t* is an arithmetic type, and one could just define

```
#define difftime(t1,t0) (double)(t1 - t0)
```

when the possible overflow in the subtraction is not a concern.

SEE ALSO

date(1), **gettimeofday(2)**, **time(2)**, **ctime(3)**, **gmtime(3)**, **localtime(3)**