

NAME

isatty – test whether a file descriptor refers to a terminal

LIBRARY

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

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <unistd.h>
```

```
int isatty(int fd);
```

DESCRIPTION

The **isatty()** function tests whether *fd* is an open file descriptor referring to a terminal.

RETURN VALUE

isatty() returns 1 if *fd* is an open file descriptor referring to a terminal; otherwise 0 is returned, and *errno* is set to indicate the error.

ERRORS**EBADF**

fd is not a valid file descriptor.

ENOTTY

fd refers to a file other than a terminal. On some older kernels, some types of files resulted in the error **EINVAL** in this case (which is a violation of POSIX, which specifies the error **ENOTTY**).

ATTRIBUTES

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

Interface	Attribute	Value
isatty()	Thread safety	MT-Safe

STANDARDS

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

SEE ALSO

fstat(2), **ttyname(3)**