

**NAME**

MB\_LEN\_MAX – maximum multibyte length of a character across all locales

**LIBRARY**

Standard C library (*libc*)

**SYNOPSIS**

**#include <limits.h>**

**DESCRIPTION**

The **MB\_LEN\_MAX** macro is the maximum number of bytes needed to represent a single wide character, in any of the supported locales.

**RETURN VALUE**

A constant integer greater than zero.

**STANDARDS**

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

**NOTES**

The entities **MB\_LEN\_MAX** and `sizeof(wchar_t)` are totally unrelated. In glibc, **MB\_LEN\_MAX** is typically 16 (6 in glibc versions earlier than 2.2), while `sizeof(wchar_t)` is 4.

**SEE ALSO**

**MB\_CUR\_MAX(3)**