

NAME

canonicalize_file_name – return the canonicalized absolute pathname

LIBRARY

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

SYNOPSIS

```
#define _GNU_SOURCE      /* See feature_test_macros(7) */
#include <stdlib.h>

char *canonicalize_file_name(const char *path);
```

DESCRIPTION

The **canonicalize_file_name()** function returns a null-terminated string containing the canonicalized absolute pathname corresponding to *path*. In the returned string, symbolic links are resolved, as are . and .. pathname components. Consecutive slash (/) characters are replaced by a single slash.

The returned string is dynamically allocated by **canonicalize_file_name()** and the caller should deallocate it with **free(3)** when it is no longer required.

The call *canonicalize_file_name(path)* is equivalent to the call:

```
realpath(path, NULL);
```

RETURN VALUE

On success, **canonicalize_file_name()** returns a null-terminated string. On error (e.g., a pathname component is unreadable or does not exist), **canonicalize_file_name()** returns NULL and sets *errno* to indicate the error.

ERRORS

See **realpath(3)**.

ATTRIBUTES

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

Interface	Attribute	Value
canonicalize_file_name()	Thread safety	MT-Safe

STANDARDS

This function is a GNU extension.

SEE ALSO

readlink(2), **realpath(3)**