

isatty(3) — Linux manual page

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 ISATTY(3)

Linux Programmer's Manual

ISATTY(3)**NAME** [top](#)

isatty - test whether a file descriptor refers to a terminal

SYNOPSIS [top](#)

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

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

DESCRIPTION [top](#)

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

RETURN VALUE [top](#)

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 [top](#)

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 [top](#)

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see [attributes\(7\)](#).

Interface	Attribute	Value
isatty()	Thread safety	MT-Safe

CONFORMING TO [top](#)

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

SEE ALSO [top](#)

[fstat\(2\)](#), [ttyname\(3\)](#)

COLOPHON [top](#)

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Pages that refer to this page: [bash\(1\)](#), [ttyname\(3\)](#)

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