

umask(3p) — Linux manual page

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UMASK(3P)**POSIX Programmer's Manual****UMASK(3P)**

PROLOG

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NAME

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umask – set and get the file mode creation mask

SYNOPSIS

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```
#include <sys/stat.h>
```

```
mode_t umask(mode_t cmask);
```

DESCRIPTION

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The `umask()` function shall set the file mode creation mask of the process to `cmask` and return the previous value of the mask. Only the file permission bits of `cmask` (see `<sys/stat.h>`) are used; the meaning of the other bits is implementation-defined.

The file mode creation mask of the process is used to turn off permission bits in the `mode` argument supplied during calls to the following functions:

- * `open()`, `openat()`, `creat()`, `mkdir()`, `mkdirat()`, `mkfifo()`, and `mkfifoat()`
- * `mknod()`, `mknodat()`
- * `mq_open()`
- * `sem_open()`

Bit positions that are set in `cmask` are cleared in the mode of the created file.

RETURN VALUE [top](#)

The file permission bits in the value returned by `umask()` shall be the previous value of the file mode creation mask. The state of any other bits in that value is unspecified, except that a subsequent call to `umask()` with the returned value as `cmask` shall leave the state of the mask the same as its state before the first call, including any unspecified use of those bits.

ERRORS [top](#)

No errors are defined.

The following sections are informative.

EXAMPLES [top](#)

None.

APPLICATION USAGE [top](#)

None.

RATIONALE [top](#)

Unsigned argument and return types for `umask()` were proposed. The return type and the argument were both changed to `mode_t`.

Historical implementations have made use of additional bits in `cmask` for their implementation-defined purposes. The addition of the text that the meaning of other bits of the field is implementation-defined permits these implementations to conform to this volume of POSIX.1-2017.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS [top](#)

None.

SEE ALSO [top](#)

[creat\(3p\)](#), [exec\(1p\)](#), [mkdir\(3p\)](#), [mkfifo\(3p\)](#), [mknod\(3p\)](#),
[mq_open\(3p\)](#), [open\(3p\)](#), [sem_open\(3p\)](#)

The Base Definitions volume of POSIX.1-2017, [sys_stat.h\(0p\)](#),
[sys_types.h\(0p\)](#)

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Pages that refer to this page: [sys_stat.h\(0p\)](#), [mkdir\(1p\)](#), [sh\(1p\)](#), [umask\(1p\)](#), [exec\(3p\)](#), [mkdir\(3p\)](#), [mkfifo\(3p\)](#), [mknod\(3p\)](#), [open\(3p\)](#), [posix_typed_mem_open\(3p\)](#), [shm_open\(3p\)](#)

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