

fchown - Man Page

change owner and group of a file

Prolog

This manual page is part of the POSIX Programmer's Manual. The Linux implementation of this interface may differ (consult the corresponding Linux manual page for details of Linux behavior), or the interface may not be implemented on Linux.

Synopsis

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

```
int fchown(int fildes, uid_t owner, gid_t group);
```

Description

The *fchown()* function shall be equivalent to *chown()* except that the file whose owner and group are changed is specified by the file descriptor *fildes*.

Return Value

Upon successful completion, *fchown()* shall return 0. Otherwise, it shall return -1 and set *errno* to indicate the error.

Errors

The *fchown()* function shall fail if:

EBADF

The *fildes* argument is not an open file descriptor.

EPERM

The effective user ID does not match the owner of the file or the process does not have appropriate privileges and `_POSIX_CHOWN_RESTRICTED` indicates that such privilege is required.

EROFS

The file referred to by *fildes* resides on a read-only file system.

The *fchown()* function may fail if:

EINVAL

The owner or group ID is not a value supported by the implementation. The *fildes* argument refers to a pipe or socket or an *fattach()*-ed STREAM and

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EINTR

The `fchown()` function was interrupted by a signal which was caught.

The following sections are informative.

Examples

Changing the Current Owner of a File

The following example shows how to change the owner of a file named `/home/cnd/mod1` to “jones” and the group to “cnd”.

The numeric value for the user ID is obtained by extracting the user ID from the user database entry associated with “jones”. Similarly, the numeric value for the group ID is obtained by extracting the group ID from the group database entry associated with “cnd”. This example assumes the calling program has appropriate privileges.

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <pwd.h>
#include <grp.h>

struct passwd *pwd;
struct group *grp;
int          fildes;

...
fildes = open("/home/cnd/mod1", O_RDWR);
pwd = getpwnam("jones");
grp = getgrnam("cnd");
fchown(fildes, pwd->pw_uid, grp->gr_gid);
```

Application Usage

None.

Rationale

None.

Future Directions

None.

See Also

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The Base Definitions volume of POSIX.1-2017, `<unistd.h>`

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Referenced By

`unistd.h(0p)`.

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