

# Thread

## Create, Join, Terminate

### Thread Creation

The `pthread_create` function starts a new threads in the calling process.

```
int pthread_create(  
    pthread_t* thread_id,  
    const pthread_attr_t *attr,  
    void *(*start_routine) (void*),  
    void* arg);
```

- First argument, `thread_id` is used to store thread id.
- Second argument, `attr` is used to customize thread attributes. If `attr` is `NULL`, create thread with default attributes
- Third, the thread starts running at the address of `start_routine` function. This function take a single argument.
- Finally, `arg` is argument used to pass to `start_routine` function.

Note:

When two threads are created, no guarantee that which will run first.

### *Return Value*

On success, return 0

On error, return failure number.

### Thread Termination

A thread can exit on below conditions,

- It calls `pthread_exit(retval)`, `retval` is the exit status value that is available to another thread in the same process that calls `pthread_join`.
- It returns from start routine function. This is equivalent to calling `pthread_exit` with the value supplied in the return statement.
- It is canceled. The exit code is set to `PTHREAD_CANCELED`.
- Its process terminate.

### *Code*

- Create thread
- Pass argument
- Get return value

```
#include <pthread.h>  
#include <stdio.h>  
  
void* start_routine(void* arg) {  
    int n = (int)arg;  
    printf("start_routine, get arg:%d\n", n);  
  
    printf("start routine, return 3\n");  
  
    //return value  
    pthread_exit((void*)3);  
    // return (void*)3;
```

```
}

int main() {
    pthread_t thread_id;
    void* retval; //used to get thread return value

    printf("main, create thread, pass argument: 100\n");

    pthread_create(&thread_id, NULL, start_routine, 100);
    pthread_join(thread_id, &retval);

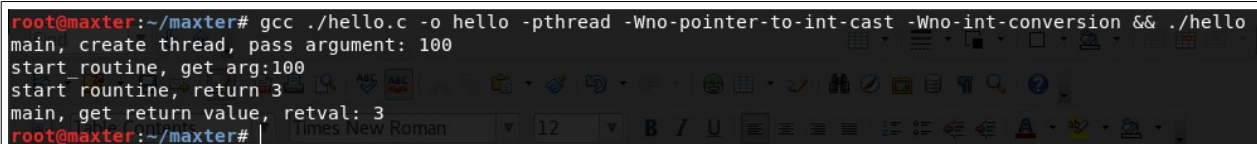
    int n = (int)retval;
    printf("main, get return value, retval: %d\n", retval);

    return 0;
}
```

## Compile

```
gcc ./hello.c -o hello -pthread -Wno-pointer-to-int-cast -Wno-int-conversion
```

## Result



A terminal window showing the execution of the program. The prompt is root@maxter:~/maxter#. The command executed is gcc ./hello.c -o hello -pthread -Wno-pointer-to-int-cast -Wno-int-conversion && ./hello. The output is: main, create thread, pass argument: 100; start\_routine, get arg:100; start\_routine, return 3; main, get return value, retval: 3. The terminal has a dark background and a standard Linux desktop environment visible in the background.

```
root@maxter:~/maxter# gcc ./hello.c -o hello -pthread -Wno-pointer-to-int-cast -Wno-int-conversion && ./hello
main, create thread, pass argument: 100
start_routine, get arg:100
start_routine, return 3
main, get return value, retval: 3
root@maxter:~/maxter#
```