NAME

rmdir − delete a directory

SYNOPSIS

#include <unistd.h>

int rmdir(const char ****pathname*);**

DESCRIPTION

rmdir() deletes a directory, which must be empty.

RETURN VALUE

On success, zero is returned. On error, −1 is returned, and *errno* is set appropriately.

ERRORS

EACCES

Write access to the directory containing *pathname* was not allowed, or one of the directories in the path prefix of *pathname* did not allow search permission. (See also path_resolution(7).

EBUSY

pathname is currently in use by the system or some process that prevents its removal. On Linux, this means *pathname* is currently used as a mount point or is the root directory of the calling process.

EFAULT

pathname points outside your accessible address space.

EINVAL

pathname has . as last component.

ELOOP

Too many symbolic links were encountered in resolving *pathname*.

ENAMETOOLONG

pathname was too long.

ENOENT

A directory component in *pathname* does not exist or is a dangling symbolic link.

ENOMEM

Insufficient kernel memory was available.

ENOTDIR

pathname, or a component used as a directory in *pathname*, is not, in fact, a directory.

ENOTEMPTY

pathname contains entries other than . and .. ; or, *pathname* has .. as its final component. POSIX.1 also allows **EEXIST** for this condition.

EPERM

The directory containing *pathname* has the sticky bit (**S_ISVTX**) set and the process's effective user ID is neither the user ID of the file to be deleted nor that of the directory containing it, and the process is not privileged (Linux: does not have the **CAP_FOWNER** capability).

EPERM

The filesystem containing *pathname* does not support the removal of directories.

EROFS

pathname refers to a directory on a read-only filesystem.

CONFORMING TO

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

BUGS

Infelicities in the protocol underlying NFS can cause the unexpected disappearance of directories which are still being used.

SEE ALSO

rm(1), rmdir(1), chdir(2), chmod(2), mkdir(2), rename(2), unlink(2), unlinkat(2)

COLOPHON

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