

**NAME**

setnetgrent, endnetgrent, getnetgrent, getnetgrent\_r, innnetgr – handle network group entries

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <netdb.h>

int setnetgrent(const char *netgroup);

void endnetgrent(void);

int getnetgrent(char **host, char **user, char **domain);

int getnetgrent_r(char **host, char **user,
                 char **domain, char *buf, size_t buflen);

int innnetgr(const char *netgroup, const char *host,
            const char *user, const char *domain);
```

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see [feature\\_test\\_macros\(7\)](#)):

**setnetgrent()**, **endnetgrent()**, **getnetgrent()**, **getnetgrent\_r()**, **innnetgr()**: Since glibc 2.19: `_DEFAULT_SOURCE` Glibc 2.19 and earlier: `_BSD_SOURCE` || `_SVID_SOURCE`

**DESCRIPTION**

The *netgroup* is a SunOS invention. A netgroup database is a list of string triples (*hostname*, *username*, *domainname*) or other netgroup names. Any of the elements in a triple can be empty, which means that anything matches. The functions described here allow access to the netgroup databases. The file */etc/nsswitch.conf* defines what database is searched.

The **setnetgrent()** call defines the netgroup that will be searched by subsequent **getnetgrent()** calls. The **getnetgrent()** function retrieves the next netgroup entry, and returns pointers in *host*, *user*, *domain*. A null pointer means that the corresponding entry matches any string. The pointers are valid only as long as there is no call to other netgroup-related functions. To avoid this problem you can use the GNU function **getnetgrent\_r()** that stores the strings in the supplied buffer. To free all allocated buffers use **endnetgrent()**.

In most cases you want to check only if the triplet (*hostname*, *username*, *domainname*) is a member of a netgroup. The function **innnetgr()** can be used for this without calling the above three functions. Again, a null pointer is a wildcard and matches any string. The function is thread-safe.

**RETURN VALUE**

These functions return 1 on success and 0 for failure.

**FILES**

*/etc/netgroup*  
*/etc/nsswitch.conf*

**ATTRIBUTES**

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

Interface	Attribute	Value
<b>setnetgrent()</b> , <b>getnetgrent_r()</b> , <b>innnetgr()</b>	Thread safety	MT-Unsafe race:netgrent locale
<b>endnetgrent()</b>	Thread safety	MT-Unsafe race:netgrent
<b>getnetgrent()</b>	Thread safety	MT-Unsafe race:netgrent race:netgrentbuf locale

In the above table, *netgrent* in *race:netgrent* signifies that if any of the functions **setnetgrent()**, **getnetgrent\_r()**, **innnetgr()**, **getnetgrent()**, or **endnetgrent()** are used in parallel in different threads of a program, then data races could occur.

**CONFORMING TO**

These functions are not in POSIX.1, but **setnetgrent()**, **endnetgrent()**, **getnetgrent()**, and **innnetgr()** are available on most UNIX systems. **getnetgrent\_r()** is not widely available on other systems.

**NOTES**

In the BSD implementation, **setnetgrent()** returns void.

**SEE ALSO**

[sethostent\(3\)](#), [setprotoent\(3\)](#), [setservent\(3\)](#)

**COLOPHON**

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