

NAME

ffs, ffsl, ffsll – find first bit set in a word

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <strings.h>
int ffs(int i);
#include <string.h>
int ffsl(long int i);
int ffsll(long long int i);
```

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see [feature_test_macros\(7\)](#)):

ffs():

Since glibc 2.12:

```
_XOPEN_SOURCE >= 700 || !_POSIX_C_SOURCE >= 200809L /* Glibc since 2.19: */
_DEFAULT_SOURCE /* Glibc versions <= 2.19: */ _BSD_SOURCE || _SVID_SOURCE
```

Before glibc 2.12:

none

ffsl(), ffsll():

Since glibc 2.27:

```
_DEFAULT_SOURCE
```

Before glibc 2.27:

```
_GNU_SOURCE
```

DESCRIPTION

The **ffs()** function returns the position of the first (least significant) bit set in the word *i*. The least significant bit is position 1 and the most significant position is, for example, 32 or 64. The functions **ffsll()** and **ffsl()** do the same but take arguments of possibly different size.

RETURN VALUE

These functions return the position of the first bit set, or 0 if no bits are set in *i*.

ATTRIBUTES

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

Interface	Attribute	Value
ffs(), ffsl(), ffsll()	Thread safety	MT-Safe

CONFORMING TO

ffs(): POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, 4.3BSD.

The **ffsl()** and **ffsll()** functions are glibc extensions.

NOTES

BSD systems have a prototype in `<string.h>`.

SEE ALSO

[memchr\(3\)](#)

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 4.16 of the Linux *man-pages* project. A description of the project, information about reporting bugs, and the latest version of this page, can be found at <https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/>.