

NAME

`gcvt` – convert a floating-point number to a string

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <stdlib.h>
```

```
char *gcvt(double number, int ndigit, char *buf);
```

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

gcvt():

Since glibc 2.12:

```
(_XOPEN_SOURCE >= 500) ! (_POSIX_C_SOURCE >= 200112L)
|| /* Glibc since 2.19: */ _DEFAULT_SOURCE
|| /* Glibc versions <= 2.19: */ _SVID_SOURCE
```

Before glibc 2.12:

```
_SVID_SOURCE || _XOPEN_SOURCE >= 500
```

DESCRIPTION

The `gcvt()` function converts *number* to a minimal length null-terminated ASCII string and stores the result in *buf*. It produces *ndigit* significant digits in either [printf\(3\)](#) F format or E format.

RETURN VALUE

The `gcvt()` function returns the address of the string pointed to by *buf*.

ATTRIBUTES

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

Interface	Attribute	Value
<code>gcvt()</code>	Thread safety	MT-Safe

CONFORMING TO

Marked as LEGACY in POSIX.1-2001. POSIX.1-2008 removes the specification of `gcvt()`, recommending the use of [sprintf\(3\)](#) instead (though [snprintf\(3\)](#) may be preferable).

SEE ALSO

[ecvt\(3\)](#), [fcvt\(3\)](#), [sprintf\(3\)](#)

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/>.