

NAME

`lseek64` – reposition 64-bit read/write file offset

SYNOPSIS

```
#define _LARGEFILE64_SOURCE /* See feature_test_macros(7) */
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <unistd.h>

off64_t lseek64(int fd, off64_t offset, int whence);
```

DESCRIPTION

The `lseek(2)` family of functions reposition the offset of the open file associated with the file descriptor `fd` to `offset` bytes relative to the start, current position, or end of the file, when `whence` has the value `SEEK_SET`, `SEEK_CUR`, or `SEEK_END`, respectively.

For more details, return value, and errors, see `lseek(2)`.

Four interfaces are available: `lseek(2)`, `lseek64()`, `llseek(2)`, and `_llseek(2)`.

lseek()

Prototype:

```
off_t lseek(int fd, off_t offset, int whence);
```

`lseek(2)` uses the type `off_t`. This is a 32-bit signed type on 32-bit architectures, unless one compiles with

```
#define _FILE_OFFSET_BITS 64
```

in which case it is a 64-bit signed type.

lseek64()

Prototype:

```
off64_t lseek64(int fd, off64_t offset, int whence);
```

The library routine `lseek64()` uses a 64-bit type even when `off_t` is a 32-bit type. Its prototype (and the type `off64_t`) is available only when one compiles with

```
#define _LARGEFILE64_SOURCE
```

The function `lseek64()` is available since glibc 2.1, and is defined to be an alias for `llseek()`.

llseek()

Prototype:

```
loff_t llseek(int fd, loff_t offset, int whence);
```

The type `loff_t` is a 64-bit signed type. The library routine `llseek()` is available in glibc and works without special defines. However, the glibc headers do not provide a prototype. Users should add the above prototype, or something equivalent, to their own source. When users complained about data loss caused by a miscompilation of `e2fsck(8)`, glibc 2.1.3 added the link-time warning

```
"the `llseek` function may be dangerous; use `lseek64` instead."
```

This makes this function unusable if one desires a warning-free compilation.

_llseek()

On 32-bit architectures, this is the system call that is used to implement all of the above functions. The prototype is:

```
int _llseek(int fd, off_t offset_hi, off_t offset_lo,
            loff_t *result, int whence);
```

For more details, see `llseek(2)`.

64-bit systems don't need an `_llseek()` system call. Instead, they have an `lseek(2)` system call that supports 64-bit file offsets.

ATTRIBUTES

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

Interface	Attribute	Value
lseek64()	Thread safety	MT-Safe

SEE ALSO

[llseek\(2\)](#), [lseek\(2\)](#)

COLOPHON

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