

NAME

mkdtemp – create a unique temporary directory

SYNOPSIS

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

```
char *mkdtemp(char *template);
```

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

```
mkdtemp():
```

```
/* Since glibc 2.19: */ _DEFAULT_SOURCE
```

```
|| /* Glibc 2.19 and earlier: */ _BSD_SOURCE
```

```
|| /* Since glibc 2.10: */ _POSIX_C_SOURCE >= 200809L
```

DESCRIPTION

The **mkdtemp()** function generates a uniquely named temporary directory from *template*. The last six characters of *template* must be XXXXXX and these are replaced with a string that makes the directory name unique. The directory is then created with permissions 0700. Since it will be modified, *template* must not be a string constant, but should be declared as a character array.

RETURN VALUE

The **mkdtemp()** function returns a pointer to the modified template string on success, and NULL on failure, in which case *errno* is set appropriately.

ERRORS**EINVAL**

The last six characters of *template* were not XXXXXX. Now *template* is unchanged.

Also see [mkdir\(2\)](#) for other possible values for *errno*.

VERSIONS

Available since glibc 2.1.91.

ATTRIBUTES

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

Interface	Attribute	Value
mkdtemp()	Thread safety	MT-Safe

CONFORMING TO

POSIX.1-2008. This function is present on the BSDs.

SEE ALSO

[mktemp\(1\)](#), [mkdir\(2\)](#), [mkstemp\(3\)](#), [mktemp\(3\)](#), [tempnam\(3\)](#), [tmpfile\(3\)](#), [tmpnam\(3\)](#)

COLOPHON

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