

**NAME**

getpwent, getpwuid, getpwnam, setpwent, endpwent — get password file entry

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <pwd.h>

struct passwd *getpwent ( )

struct passwd *getpwuid (uid)
int uid;

struct passwd *getpwnam (name)
char *name;

int setpwent ( )

int endpwent ( )
```

**DESCRIPTION**

*Getpwent*, *getpwuid*, and *getpwnam* each returns a pointer to an object with the following structure containing the broken-out fields of a line in the password file.

```
/*          @(#)pwd.h      2.2          */
struct
passwd
{
    char      *pw_name;
    char      *pw_passwd;
    int       pw_uid;
    int       pw_gid;
    char      *pw_age;
    char      *pw_comment;
    char      *pw_gecos;
    char      *pw_dir;
    char      *pw_shell;
};
```

The *pw\_comment* field is unused; the others have meanings described in *passwd(5)*.

*Getpwent* reads the next line in the file, so successive calls can be used to search the entire file. *Getpwuid* and *getpwnam* search from the beginning of the file until a matching *uid* or *name* is found, or EOF is encountered.

A call to *setpwent* has the effect of rewinding the password file to allow repeated searches. *Endpwent* may be called to close the password file when processing is complete.

**FILES**

/etc/passwd

**SEE ALSO**

getlogin(3C), getgrent(3C), passwd(5)

**DIAGNOSTICS**

Null pointer (0) returned on EOF or error.

**BUGS**

All information is contained in a static area so it must be copied if it is to be saved.