NAME

syscall, **__syscall** - indirect system call

LIBRARY

Standard C Library (libc, -lc)

SYNOPSIS

#include <sys/syscall.h>
#include <unistd.h>

int
syscall(*int number*, ...);

off_t
__syscall(*quad_t number*, ...);

DESCRIPTION

The **syscall**() function performs the system call whose assembly language interface has the specified *number* with the specified arguments. Symbolic constants for system calls can be found in the header file *<sys/syscall.h>*. The **__syscall**() form should be used when one or more of the arguments is a 64-bit argument to ensure that argument alignment is correct. This system call is useful for testing new system calls that do not have entries in the C library.

RETURN VALUES

The return values are defined by the system call being invoked. In general, a 0 return value indicates success. A -1 return value indicates an error, and an error code is stored in *errno*.

HISTORY

The **syscall**() function appeared in 4.0BSD.

BUGS

There is no way to simulate system calls that have multiple return values such as pipe(2).