NAME

curl_easy_init - Start a libcurl easy session

SYNOPSIS

#include <curl/curl.h>

CURL *curl_easy_init();

DESCRIPTION

This function allocates and returns a CURL easy handle. Such a handle is used as input to other functions in the easy interface. This call must have a corresponding call to *curl_easy_cleanup(3)* when the operation is complete.

The easy handle is used to hold and control a single network transfer. It is encouraged to reuse easy handles for repeated transfers.

An alternative way to get a new easy handle is to duplicate an already existing one with *curl_easy_duphandle(3)*, which has the upside that it gets all the options that were set in the source handle set in the new copy as well.

If you did not already call *curl_global_init(3)* before calling this function, *curl_easy_init(3)* does it automatically. This may be lethal in multi-threaded cases, if *curl_global_init(3)* is not thread-safe in your system, and it may then result in resource problems because there is no corresponding cleanup.

You are strongly advised to not allow this automatic behavior, by calling *curl_global_init(3)* yourself properly. See the description in **libcurl**(3) of global environment requirements for details of how to use this function.

EXAMPLE

```
int main(void)
{
 CURL *curl = curl_easy_init();
 if(curl) {
   CURLcode res;
   curl_easy_setopt(curl, CURLOPT_URL, "https://example.com");
   res = curl_easy_perform(curl);
   curl_easy_cleanup(curl);
 }
}
```

AVAILABILITY

Always

RETURN VALUE

If this function returns NULL, something went wrong and you cannot use the other curl functions.

SEE ALSO

curl_easy_cleanup(3), **curl_easy_duphandle**(3), **curl_easy_perform**(3), **curl_easy_reset**(3), **curl_global_init**(3), **curl_multi_init**(3)