

**NAME**

curl\_unescape - URL decode a string

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <curl/curl.h>
```

```
char *curl_unescape(const char *input, int length);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

Deprecated. Use *curl\_easy\_unescape(3)* instead.

This function converts the URL encoded string **input** to a "plain string" and return that as a new allocated string. All input characters that are URL encoded (%XX where XX is a two-digit hexadecimal number) are converted to their plain text versions.

If the **length** argument is set to 0, *curl\_unescape(3)* calls `strlen()` on **input** to find out the size.

You must *curl\_free(3)* the returned string when you are done with it.

**PROTOCOLS**

This functionality affects all supported protocols

**EXAMPLE**

```
int main(void)
{
    CURL *curl = curl_easy_init();
    if(curl) {
        char *decoded = curl_unescape("%63%75%72%6c", 12);
        if(decoded) {
            /* do not assume printf() works on the decoded data */
            printf("Decoded: ");
            /* ... */
            curl_free(decoded);
        }
    }
}
```

**DEPRECATED**

Since 7.15.4, *curl\_easy\_unescape(3)* should be used. This function might be removed in a future release.

**AVAILABILITY**

Added in curl 7.1

**RETURN VALUE**

A pointer to a null-terminated string or NULL if it failed.

**SEE ALSO**

**RFC2396**, **curl\_easy\_escape(3)**, **curl\_easy\_unescape(3)**, **curl\_free(3)**