

## NAME

gnutls\_x509\_privkey\_generate - API function

## SYNOPSIS

```
#include <gnutls/x509.h>
```

```
int gnutls_x509_privkey_generate(gnutls_x509_privkey_t key, gnutls_pk_algorithm_t algo, unsigned int bits, unsigned int flags);
```

## ARGUMENTS

gnutls\_x509\_privkey\_t key

an initialized key

gnutls\_pk\_algorithm\_t algo

is one of the algorithms in **gnutls\_pk\_algorithm\_t**.

unsigned int bits

the size of the parameters to generate

unsigned int flags

Must be zero or flags from **gnutls\_privkey\_flags\_t**.

## DESCRIPTION

This function will generate a random private key. Note that this function must be called on an initialized private key.

The flag **GNUTLS\_PRIVKEY\_FLAG\_PROVABLE** instructs the key generation process to use algorithms like Shawe-Taylor (from FIPS PUB186-4) which generate provable parameters out of a seed for RSA and DSA keys. See **gnutls\_x509\_privkey\_generate2()** for more information.

Note that when generating an elliptic curve key, the curve can be substituted in the place of the bits parameter using the **GNUTLS\_CURVE\_TO\_BITS()** macro. The input to the macro is any curve from **gnutls\_ecc\_curve\_t**.

For DSA keys, if the subgroup size needs to be specified check the **GNUTLS\_SUBGROUP\_TO\_BITS()** macro.

It is recommended to do not set the number of *bits* directly, use **gnutls\_sec\_param\_to\_pk\_bits()** instead

See also **gnutls\_privkey\_generate()**, **gnutls\_x509\_privkey\_generate2()**.

## RETURNS

On success, **GNUTLS\_E\_SUCCESS** (0) is returned, otherwise a negative error value.

## REPORTING BUGS

Report bugs to <[bugs@gnutls.org](mailto:bugs@gnutls.org)>. Home page: <https://www.gnutls.org>

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## SEE ALSO

The full documentation for **gnutls** is maintained as a Texinfo manual. If the /usr/local/share/doc/gnutls/ directory does not contain the HTML form visit

<https://www.gnutls.org/manual/>