

NAME

mblen - get number of bytes in a character

LIBRARY

Standard C Library (libc, -lc)

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <stdlib.h>
```

int

```
mblen(const char *mbchar, size_t nbytes);
```

DESCRIPTION

The **mblen()** function computes the length in bytes of a multibyte character *mbchar* according to the current conversion state. Up to *nbytes* bytes are examined.

A call with a null *mbchar* pointer returns nonzero if the current locale requires shift states, zero otherwise; if shift states are required, the shift state is reset to the initial state.

RETURN VALUES

If *mbchar* is NULL, the **mblen()** function returns nonzero if shift states are supported, zero otherwise.

Otherwise, if *mbchar* is not a null pointer, **mblen()** either returns 0 if *mbchar* represents the null wide character, or returns the number of bytes processed in *mbchar*, or returns -1 if no multibyte character could be recognized or converted. In this case, **mblen()**'s internal conversion state is undefined.

ERRORS

The **mblen()** function will fail if:

[EILSEQ] An invalid multibyte sequence was detected.

[EINVAL] The internal conversion state is not valid.

SEE ALSO

mbrlen(3), mbtowc(3), multibyte(3)

STANDARDS

The **mblen()** function conforms to ISO/IEC 9899:1999 ("ISO C99").