

**NAME**

**pam\_get\_user** - retrieve user name

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <sys/types.h>
```

```
#include <security/pam_appl.h>
```

*int*

```
pam_get_user(pam_handle_t *pamh, const char **user, const char *prompt);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The **pam\_get\_user()** function returns the name of the target user, as specified to **pam\_start(3)**. If no user was specified, nor set using **pam\_set\_item(3)**, **pam\_get\_user()** will prompt for a user name. Either way, a pointer to the user name is stored in the location pointed to by the *user* argument, and the corresponding PAM item is updated.

The *prompt* argument specifies a prompt to use if no user name is cached. If it is NULL, the PAM\_USER\_PROMPT item will be used. If that item is also NULL, a hardcoded default prompt will be used. Additionally, when **pam\_get\_user()** is called from a service module, the prompt may be affected by module options as described below. The prompt is then expanded using **openpam\_subst(3)** before it is passed to the conversation function.

**MODULE OPTIONS**

When called by a service module, **pam\_get\_user()** will recognize the following module options:

<code>user_prompt</code>	Prompt to use when asking for the user name. This option overrides both the <i>prompt</i> argument and the PAM_USER_PROMPT item.
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**RETURN VALUES**

The **pam\_get\_user()** function returns one of the following values:

[PAM\_SUCCESS]     Success.

[PAM\_BAD\_ITEM]    Unrecognized or restricted item.

[PAM\_BUF\_ERR]     Memory buffer error.

[PAM\_CONV\_ERR]    Conversation failure.

[PAM\_SYSTEM\_ERR]

System error.

**SEE ALSO**

openpam\_get\_option(3), openpam\_subst(3), pam(3), pam\_conv(3), pam\_get\_authtok(3),  
pam\_get\_item(3), pam\_set\_item(3), pam\_start(3), pam\_strerror(3)

**STANDARDS**

*X/Open Single Sign-On Service (XSSO) - Pluggable Authentication Modules*, June 1997.

**AUTHORS**

The **pam\_get\_user()** function and this manual page were developed for the FreeBSD Project by ThinkSec AS and Network Associates Laboratories, the Security Research Division of Network Associates, Inc. under DARPA/SPAWAR contract N66001-01-C-8035 ("CBOSS"), as part of the DARPA CHATS research program.

The OpenPAM library is maintained by Dag-Erling Smørgrav <des@des.no>.