

**NAME**

PCRE2 - Perl-compatible regular expressions (revised API)

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <pcre2.h>
```

```
int pcre2_pattern_convert(PCRE2_SPTR pattern, PCRE2_SIZE length,
    uint32_t options, PCRE2_UCHAR **buffer,
    PCRE2_SIZE *blength, pcre2_convert_context *cvcontext);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

This function is part of an experimental set of pattern conversion functions. It converts a foreign pattern (for example, a glob) into a PCRE2 regular expression pattern. Its arguments are:

*pattern*    The foreign pattern  
*length*    The length of the input pattern or PCRE2\_ZERO\_TERMINATED  
*options*    Option bits  
*buffer*    Pointer to pointer to output buffer, or NULL  
*blength*    Pointer to output length field  
*cvcontext*    Pointer to a convert context or NULL

The length of the converted pattern (excluding the terminating zero) is returned via *blength*. If *buffer* is NULL, the function just returns the output length. If *buffer* points to a NULL pointer, heap memory is obtained for the converted pattern, using the allocator in the context if present (or else **malloc()**), and the field pointed to by *buffer* is updated. If *buffer* points to a non-NULL field, that must point to a buffer whose size is in the variable pointed to by *blength*. This value is updated.

The option bits are:

```
PCRE2_CONVERT_UTF                    Input is UTF
PCRE2_CONVERT_NO_UTF_CHECK          Do not check UTF validity
PCRE2_CONVERT_POSIX_BASIC            Convert POSIX basic pattern
PCRE2_CONVERT_POSIX_EXTENDED        Convert POSIX extended pattern
PCRE2_CONVERT_GLOB                    ) Convert
PCRE2_CONVERT_GLOB_NO_WILD_SEPARATOR ) various types
PCRE2_CONVERT_GLOB_NO_STARSTAR      ) of glob
```

The return value from **pcre2\_pattern\_convert()** is zero on success or a non-zero PCRE2 error code.

The pattern conversion functions are described in the **pcre2convert** documentation.