

NAME

protocols - protocol name data base

DESCRIPTION

The **protocols** file contains information regarding the assigned protocol numbers used by IPv4 and IPv6 to identify the next level protocol. For each protocol a single line should be present with the following information:

official protocol name
protocol number
aliases

Items are separated by any number of blanks and/or tab characters. A ‘#’ indicates the beginning of a comment; characters up to the end of the line are not interpreted by routines which search the file.

Protocol names may contain any printable character other than a field delimiter, newline, or comment character.

FILES

/etc/protocols The **protocols** file resides in */etc*.

SEE ALSO

getprotoent(3)

IANA Allocation Guidelines For Values In the Internet Protocol and Related Headers, RFC 2780, March 2000.

IANA Allocation Guidelines for the Protocol Field, RFC 5237, February 2008.

HISTORY

The **protocols** file format appeared in 4.2BSD, describing the "known protocols used in the DARPA Internet".

BUGS

A name server should be used instead of a static file.