

**NAME**

**err, verr, errc, verrc, errx, verrx, warn, vwarn, warnc, vwarnc, warnx, vwarnx, err\_set\_exit, err\_set\_file** - formatted error messages

**LIBRARY**

Standard C Library (libc, -lc)

**SYNOPSIS**

**#include <err.h>**

*void*

**err**(*int eval, const char \*fmt, ...*);

*void*

**err\_set\_exit**(*void (\*exitf)(int)*);

*void*

**err\_set\_file**(*void \*vfp*);

*void*

**errc**(*int eval, int code, const char \*fmt, ...*);

*void*

**errx**(*int eval, const char \*fmt, ...*);

*void*

**warn**(*const char \*fmt, ...*);

*void*

**warnc**(*int code, const char \*fmt, ...*);

*void*

**warnx**(*const char \*fmt, ...*);

**#include <stdarg.h>**

*void*

**verr**(*int eval, const char \*fmt, va\_list args*);

*void*

```
verrc(int eval, int code, const char *fmt, va_list args);
```

void

```
verrx(int eval, const char *fmt, va_list args);
```

void

```
vwarn(const char *fmt, va_list args);
```

void

```
vwarnc(int code, const char *fmt, va_list args);
```

void

```
vwarnx(const char *fmt, va_list args);
```

## DESCRIPTION

The **err()** and **warn()** family of functions display a formatted error message on the standard error output, or on another file specified using the **err\_set\_file()** function. In all cases, the last component of the program name, a colon character, and a space are output. If the *fmt* argument is not NULL, the printf(3)-like formatted error message is output. The output is terminated by a newline character.

The **err()**, **errc()**, **verr()**, **verrc()**, **warn()**, **warnc()**, **vwarn()**, and **vwarnc()** functions append an error message obtained from strerror(3) based on a supplied error code value or the global variable *errno*, preceded by another colon and space unless the *fmt* argument is NULL.

In the case of the **errc()**, **verrc()**, **warnc()**, and **vwarnc()** functions, the *code* argument is used to look up the error message.

The **err()**, **verr()**, **warn()**, and **vwarn()** functions use the global variable *errno* to look up the error message.

The **errx()** and **warnx()** functions do not append an error message.

The **err()**, **verr()**, **errc()**, **verrc()**, **errx()**, and **verrx()** functions do not return, but exit with the value of the argument *eval*. It is recommended that the standard values defined in sysexits(3) be used for the value of *eval*. The **err\_set\_exit()** function can be used to specify a function which is called before exit(3) to perform any necessary cleanup; passing a null function pointer for *exitf* resets the hook to do nothing. The **err\_set\_file()** function sets the output stream used by the other functions. Its *vfp* argument must be either a pointer to an open stream (possibly already converted to void \*) or a null pointer (in which case the output stream is set to standard error).

**EXAMPLES**

Display the current `errno` information string and exit:

```
if ((p = malloc(size)) == NULL)
    err(EX_OSERR, NULL);
if ((fd = open(file_name, O_RDONLY, 0)) == -1)
    err(EX_NOINPUT, "%s", file_name);
```

Display an error message and exit:

```
if (tm.tm_hour < START_TIME)
    errx(EX_DATAERR, "too early, wait until %s",
        start_time_string);
```

Warn of an error:

```
if ((fd = open(raw_device, O_RDONLY, 0)) == -1)
    warnx("%s: %s: trying the block device",
        raw_device, strerror(errno));
if ((fd = open(block_device, O_RDONLY, 0)) == -1)
    err(EX_OSFILE, "%s", block_device);
```

Warn of an error without using the global variable `errno`:

```
error = my_function();      /* returns a value from <errno.h> */
if (error != 0)
    warnc(error, "my_function");
```

**SEE ALSO**

`exit(3)`, `fmtmsg(3)`, `printf(3)`, `strerror(3)`, `sysexits(3)`

**STANDARDS**

The `err()` and `warn()` families of functions are BSD extensions. As such they should not be used in truly portable code. Use `strerror()` or similar functions instead.

**HISTORY**

The `err()` and `warn()` functions first appeared in 4.4BSD. The `err_set_exit()` and `err_set_file()` functions first appeared in FreeBSD 2.1. The `errc()` and `warnc()` functions first appeared in FreeBSD 3.0.