

NAME

wcwidth - number of column positions of a wide-character code

LIBRARY

Standard C Library (libc, -lc)

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <wchar.h>
```

int

```
wcwidth(wchar_t wc);
```

DESCRIPTION

The **wcwidth()** function determines the number of column positions required to display the wide character *wc*.

RETURN VALUES

The **wcwidth()** function returns 0 if the *wc* argument is a null wide character (L'\0'), -1 if *wc* is not printable, otherwise it returns the number of column positions the character occupies.

EXAMPLES

This code fragment reads text from standard input and breaks lines that are more than 20 column positions wide, similar to the `fold(1)` utility:

```
wint_t ch;
int column, w;

column = 0;
while ((ch = getwchar()) != WEOF) {
    w = wcwidth(ch);
    if (w > 0 && column + w >= 20) {
        putwchar(L'\n');
        column = 0;
    }
    putwchar(ch);
    if (ch == L'\n')
        column = 0;
    else if (w > 0)
        column += w;
}
```

SEE ALSO

iswprint(3), wcswidth(3)

STANDARDS

The **wcwidth()** function conforms to IEEE Std 1003.1-2001 ("POSIX.1").