

**NAME**

**ctermid** - generate terminal pathname

**LIBRARY**

Standard C Library (libc, -lc)

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
char *
```

```
ctermid(char *buf);
```

```
char *
```

```
ctermid_r(char *buf);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The **ctermid()** function generates a string, that, when used as a pathname, refers to the current controlling terminal of the calling process.

If *buf* is the NULL pointer, a pointer to a static area is returned. Otherwise, the pathname is copied into the memory referenced by *buf*. The argument *buf* is assumed to be at least `L_ctermid` (as defined in the include file `<stdio.h>`) bytes long.

The **ctermid\_r()** function provides the same functionality as **ctermid()** except that if *buf* is a NULL pointer, NULL is returned.

If no suitable lookup of the controlling terminal name can be performed, this implementation returns `‘/dev/tty’`.

**RETURN VALUES**

Upon successful completion, a non-NULL pointer is returned. Otherwise, a NULL pointer is returned and the global variable *errno* is set to indicate the error.

**ERRORS**

The current implementation detects no error conditions.

**SEE ALSO**

`ttynname(3)`

**STANDARDS**

The **ctermid()** function conforms to IEEE Std 1003.1-1988 ("POSIX.1").

## **BUGS**

By default the **ctermid()** function writes all information to an internal static object. Subsequent calls to **ctermid()** will modify the same object.