

**NAME**

gnutls\_privkey\_generate2 - API function

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <gnutls/abstract.h>
```

```
int gnutls_privkey_generate2(gnutls_privkey_t pkey, gnutls_pk_algorithm_t algo, unsigned int bits,
unsigned int flags, const gnutls_keygen_data_st * data, unsigned data_size);
```

**ARGUMENTS**

gnutls\_privkey\_t pkey

The private key

gnutls\_pk\_algorithm\_t algo

is one of the algorithms in **gnutls\_pk\_algorithm\_t**.

unsigned int bits

the size of the modulus

unsigned int flags

Must be zero or flags from **gnutls\_privkey\_flags\_t**.

const gnutls\_keygen\_data\_st \* data

Allow specifying **gnutls\_keygen\_data\_st** types such as the seed to be used.

unsigned data\_size

The number of *data* available.

**DESCRIPTION**

This function will generate a random private key. Note that this function must be called on an initialized private key.

The flag **GNUTLS\_PRIVKEY\_FLAG\_PROVABLE** instructs the key generation process to use algorithms like Shawe-Taylor (from FIPS PUB186-4) which generate provable parameters out of a seed for RSA and DSA keys. On DSA keys the PQG parameters are generated using the seed, while on RSA the two primes. To specify an explicit seed (by default a random seed is used), use the *data* with a **GNUTLS\_KEYGEN\_SEED** type.

Note that when generating an elliptic curve key, the curve can be substituted in the place of the bits parameter using the **GNUTLS\_CURVE\_TO\_BITS()** macro.

To export the generated keys in memory or in files it is recommended to use the PKCS8 form as it can handle all key types, and can store additional parameters such as the seed, in case of provable RSA or DSA keys. Generated keys can be exported in memory using **gnutls\_privkey\_export\_x509()**, and then with **gnutls\_x509\_privkey\_export2\_pkcs8()**.

If key generation is part of your application, avoid setting the number of bits directly, and instead use **gnutls\_sec\_param\_to\_pk\_bits()**. That way the generated keys will adapt to the security levels of the underlying GnuTLS library.

## RETURNS

On success, **GNUTLS\_E\_SUCCESS** (0) is returned, otherwise a negative error value.

## SINCE

3.5.0

## REPORTING BUGS

Report bugs to <bugs@gnutls.org>.

Home page: <https://www.gnutls.org>

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## SEE ALSO

The full documentation for **gnutls** is maintained as a Texinfo manual. If the `/usr/local/share/doc/gnutls/` directory does not contain the HTML form visit

<https://www.gnutls.org/manual/>