

**NAME**

`pcap_fileno` - get the file descriptor for a live capture

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <pcap/pcap.h>
```

```
int pcap_fileno(pcap_t *p);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

If *p* refers to a network device that was opened for a live capture using a combination of `pcap_create(3)` and `pcap_activate(3)`, or using `pcap_open_live(3)`, `pcap_fileno()` returns the file descriptor from which captured packets are read.

If *p* refers to a “savefile” that was opened using functions such as `pcap_open_offline(3)` or `pcap_fopen_offline(3)`, a “dead” `pcap_t` opened using `pcap_open_dead(3)`, or a `pcap_t` that was created with `pcap_create()` but that has not yet been activated with `pcap_activate()`, it returns **PCAP\_ERROR**.

**SEE ALSO**

`pcap(3)`