

fileno—Get the file descriptor from an open stream

This function returns the file descriptor number associated with a specified stream.

Format

```
#define _POSIX_SOURCE
#include <stdio.h>
int fileno(const FILE *stream);
```

stream

The stream for which the associated file descriptor will be returned.

The argument **stream** points to a `FILE` structure controlling a stream.

The `unistd.h` header file defines the following macros, which are constants that map to the file descriptors of the standard streams:

`STDIN_FILENO`

Standard input, `stdin` (value 0).

`STDOUT_FILENO`

Standard output, `stdout` (value 1).

`STDERR_FILENO`

Standard error, `stderr` (value 2).

Note: `stdin`, `stdout`, and `stderr` are macros, not constants.

Normal return

If successful, the `fileno` function returns the file descriptor number associated with an open stream (that is, one opened with the `fopen`, `fdopen`, or `freopen` functions).

Error return

If unsuccessful, `fileno` returns -1 and sets `errno` to `EBADF`, which indicates one of the following:

- **stream** points to a closed stream.
- **stream** is an incorrect stream pointer.