

# The GNU C Library - GNU Project

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The project website can be found here: <https://sourceware.org/glibc>

The GNU C Library - The project provides the core libraries for the GNU system and GNU/Linux systems, as well as many other systems that use Linux as the kernel. These libraries provide critical APIs including ISO C11, POSIX.1-2008, BSD, OS-specific APIs and more. These APIs include such foundational facilities as open, read, write, malloc, printf, getaddrinfo, dlopen, pthread\_create, crypt, login, exit and more.

The GNU C Library is designed to be a backwards compatible, portable, and high performance ISO C library. It aims to follow all relevant standards including ISO C11, POSIX.1-2008, and IEEE 754-2008.

The project was started circa 1988 and is more than 30 years old. You can see the complete project [release history](#) on the wiki.

Despite the project's age there is still a lot to do so please [Get Started](#) and [Get Involved!](#)

## Contact

For reporting security issues see "[Reporting security issues.](#)"

You can privately contact the project GNU package maintainers by emailing [libc-maintainers@gnu.org](mailto:libc-maintainers@gnu.org).

You can contact the developer community by emailing the developer list [libc-alpha@sourceware.org](mailto:libc-alpha@sourceware.org).

## Download

The GNU C Library can be found on the main GNU ftp server ([download glibc via HTTPS](#), [download glibc via HTTP](#) or [download glibc via FTP](#)), and its [mirrors](#); please [use a mirror](#) if possible.

## Documentation

[Documentation for the GNU C Library](#) is online, as is [documentation for most GNU software](#). It can also be accessed by running `info libc` or `man libc`, or by looking at `/usr/share/doc/glibc/`, or similar directories on your system. A brief summary is available by running `info libc`.

## Mailing lists

The GNU C Library has the following core mailing lists:

- [libc-help](#) for general user help and discussion.
- [libc-alpha](#) for patch submissions, RFEs, and development in general.

For more mailing lists please see the [list of steps to get involved](#) in glibc.

Announcements about the GNU C Library and most other GNU software are made on the [info-gnu](#) mailing list ([archives](#)).

Security reports that should not be made immediately public can be sent [directly to the maintainers](#). If there is no response to an urgent issue, you can escalate to the general [security](#) mailing list for advice.

## Getting involved

Development of the GNU C Library, and GNU in general, is a volunteer effort, and you can contribute. For information, please read [How to help GNU](#). If you'd like to get involved, it's a good idea to join the discussion mailing list (see above).

### Development tools

For development sources, issue trackers, and other information, please see the [GNU C Library project page](#).

### Testing

Trying the latest test release (when available) is always appreciated. Test releases can be found on the GNU “alpha” server ([HTTPS](#), [HTTP](#), [FTP](#)) and its [mirrors](#).

### Translating

To translate the program messages into other languages, please refer to the [Translation Project page for the GNU C Library](#). New translations or updates to the existing strings will not be incorporated into the GNU C Library if they are sent elsewhere. For more information, see the [Translation Project home page](#).

### Maintainer

The GNU C Library is currently maintained by a [the GNU package maintainers](#) who support an even larger [group of developers](#)

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Source: <https://www.gnu.org/software/libc/>