

NAME

bread - Buffered reads.

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <bread.h>
```

```
bread (brbuf,ubuf,n)
    char *ubuf;          /*Buffer where user wants to read into.*/
    struct BREAD *brbuf; /*Buffer used by bread.*/
    int n;              /*Number of bytes to be read.*/
```

```
bropen (filename,brbuf,size)
    char *filename;     /*File to be opened.*/
    struct BREAD *brbuf; /*Buffer set up by bropen.*/
    int size;          /*Size of area in brbuf actually
                       used for character buffering.*/
```

```
brsetup (brbuf,fdes,size)
    struct BREAD *brbuf; /*Buffer to be set up.*/
    int fdes;          /*File descriptor of file to be
                       buffer read.*/
    int size;          /*Size of area in brbuf actually
                       used for character buffering.*/
```

```
brlseek (brbuf,offset,ptrname)
    struct BREAD *brbuf; /*Buffer describing file on which
                       seek is to be done.*/
    long offset;        /*Same as in lseek sys call.*/
    int ptrname;       /*Same as in lseek sys call.*/
```

```
long brtell (brbuf)
    struct BREAD *brbuf;
```

```
brclose (brbuf)
    struct BREAD *brbuf;
```

DESCRIPTION

NOTE: When dealing with new programs consider Standard I/O first.

Bread performs buffered reads on the file described by brbuf. Brbuf has the following format:

```
struct BREAD{
    int br_fildes;      /*See bread.h file*/
    char *br_next;     Read descriptor of file.
    char *br_last;     Next valid character in buffer.
    int br_bufsize;    Last valid character in buffer.
                       Size of br_buffer passed by
                       user in bytes.
    char br_buffer[BR_BUFFER_SIZ]; Actual character buffer.
                                   (size defined by user)
```

};

When bread is called, if there are less than n characters in br_buffer, these characters are passed to the user then a read of a buffer full is done. If the read is not successful the characters passed to the user are retrieved back to br_buffer and -1 is returned. This is useful when a read (say from a pipe) may be interrupted by a signal. In order to do the retrieval n is restricted to be less than the size of br_buffer as specified by the user. If it is not, a -2 is returned. If successful, bread returns the number of characters actually passed to the user's buffer. This may be less than n if an end of file is reached.

Bropen opens filename for reading and saves its descriptor in brbuf. It also saves the size of the area in brbuf actually used for buffered characters. This allows the user to specify the size most suitable for the application (usually 512). Other variables in brbuf are set up properly for use with bread. Bropen returns the return from the open system call.

Brsetup sets up. Brbuf the same as bropen but instead of opening the file it gets passed the descriptor of a file that is already opened for reading or reading and writing. It returns the descriptor.

Brlseek permits the user to do a lseek on a file that is being read with bread. It discards any characters that may be buffered in br_buffer and then does the requested seek. Note that the seek is done to the actual place requested and therefore some efficiency may be lost when seeking on a disk file to a non multiple of 512 when the size of br_buffer has been specified to be 512; when the next bread occurs 512 bytes will be read into br_buffer but they will overlap two physical blocks and therefore causes two disk accesses. Brlseek returns the result of the lseek.

Brtell returns to the user the position in the file described by brbuf of the next character that can be read using bread. The actual character may be still in the file (if br_buffer is empty) or in br_buffer. A -1 is returned when the tell system call returns -1.

Brclose closes the file described by descriptor in br_fildes, loads -1 into br_fildes and discards any characters in br_buffer. It returns the result of the close system call.

FILES

/usr/include/bread.h

LIBRARY

/lib/libl.a

SEE ALSO

open(2),close(2),lseek(2),bopnclos(3L),bwrite(3L),fread(3)

DIAGNOSTICS

bread - returns -1 if read sys call returns -1.
returns -2 if trying to read more than the number of
characters that fit into br_buffer.
bropen - returns result of open sys call.
brlseek - returns result of lseek sys call.
brtell - returns -1 if tell sys call fails.
brclose - returns result of close sys call.