

**NAME**

creat – create a new file

**SYNOPSIS**

(creat = 8.)

**sys creat; name; mode**  
**(file descriptor in r0)**

**creat(name, mode)**  
**char \*name;**

**DESCRIPTION**

*Creat* creates a new file or prepares to rewrite an existing file called *name*, given as the address of a null-terminated string. If the file did not exist, it is given mode *mode*. See *chmod*(II) for the construction of the *mode* argument.

If the file did exist, its mode and owner remain unchanged but it is truncated to 0 length.

The file is also opened for writing, and its file descriptor is returned (in r0).

The *mode* given is arbitrary; it need not allow writing. This feature is used by programs which deal with temporary files of fixed names. The creation is done with a mode that forbids writing. Then if a second instance of the program attempts a *creat*, an error is returned and the program knows that the name is unusable for the moment.

**SEE ALSO**

write (II), close (II), stat (II)

**DIAGNOSTICS**

The error bit (c-bit) may be set if: a needed directory is not searchable; the file does not exist and the directory in which it is to be created is not writable; the file does exist and is unwritable; the file is a directory; there are already too many files open.

From C, a -1 return indicates an error.