

NAME

EVP_BytesToKey – password based encryption routine

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <openssl/evp.h>
```

```
int EVP_BytesToKey(const EVP_CIPHER *type, const EVP_MD *md,
                  const unsigned char *salt,
                  const unsigned char *data, int datal, int count,
                  unsigned char *key, unsigned char *iv);
```

DESCRIPTION

EVP_BytesToKey() derives a key and IV from various parameters. **type** is the cipher to derive the key and IV for. **md** is the message digest to use. The **salt** parameter is used as a salt in the derivation: it should point to an 8 byte buffer or NULL if no salt is used. **data** is a buffer containing **datal** bytes which is used to derive the keying data. **count** is the iteration count to use. The derived key and IV will be written to **key** and **iv** respectively.

NOTES

A typical application of this function is to derive keying material for an encryption algorithm from a password in the **data** parameter.

Increasing the **count** parameter slows down the algorithm which makes it harder for an attacker to perform a brute force attack using a large number of candidate passwords.

If the total key and IV length is less than the digest length and **MD5** is used then the derivation algorithm is compatible with PKCS#5 v1.5 otherwise a non standard extension is used to derive the extra data.

Newer applications should use a more modern algorithm such as PBKDF2 as defined in PKCS#5v2.1 and provided by PKCS5_PBKDF2_HMAC.

KEY DERIVATION ALGORITHM

The key and IV is derived by concatenating D₁, D₂, etc until enough data is available for the key and IV. D_i is defined as:

$$D_i = \text{HASH}^{\text{count}}(D_{(i-1)} \parallel \text{data} \parallel \text{salt})$$

where $\parallel$ denotes concatenation, D₀ is empty, HASH is the digest algorithm in use, HASH¹(data) is simply HASH(data), HASH²(data) is HASH(HASH(data)) and so on.

The initial bytes are used for the key and the subsequent bytes for the IV.

RETURN VALUES

If **data** is NULL, then **EVP_BytesToKey()** returns the number of bytes needed to store the derived key. Otherwise, **EVP_BytesToKey()** returns the size of the derived key in bytes, or 0 on error.

SEE ALSO

evp(7), **RAND_bytes**(3), **PKCS5_PBKDF2_HMAC**(3), **EVP_EncryptInit**(3)

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