

**NAME**

**define\_key** – define a *curses* function key code

**SYNOPSIS**

**#include** <curses.h>

**int** **define\_key**(const char \* *definition*, **int** *key-code*);

**DESCRIPTION**

The **define\_key** *ncurses* extension permits a *curses* application to *bind* a string *definition* to the function key *key-code* returned by **wgetch**(3X) (wide-character API users: **wget\_wch**(3X)) when **keypad**(3X) is enabled in a window and a function key is pressed. *ncurses* interprets such a binding as it does those in the *terminfo* database entry for the terminal type.

A *definition* of *NULL* removes any existing binding from *key-code*. Similarly, a non-positive *key-code* removes an existing binding for *definition*, if any.

**RETURN VALUE**

**define\_key** returns **ERR** if

- *definition* is *NULL* and *key-code* is nonpositive, or
- insufficient memory is available to bind *definition* to *key-code*.

Otherwise, **define\_key** returns **OK**.

**EXTENSIONS**

**define\_key** is an *ncurses* extension.

**PORTABILITY**

Applications employing *ncurses* extensions should condition their use on the visibility of the **NCURSES\_VERSION** preprocessor macro.

NetBSD *curses* since 2.0 (2004) supports *define\_key*.

**AUTHORS**

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**SEE ALSO**

**curses**(3X), **keybound**(3X), **keyok**(3X), **key\_defined**(3X), **terminfo**(5)