

NAME

`elf_end` – Release resources associated with an ELF descriptor.

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <libelf.h>
```

```
int elf_end(Elf *elf);
```

DESCRIPTION

The **elf_end** function releases resources associated with an ELF descriptor previously returned by **elf_begin**. It decrements the ELF descriptor's internal reference count by one. When this count reaches zero, the resources associated with the descriptor are freed and the descriptor is invalidated. If *elf* is not an archive member with ELF kind **ELF_K_AR**, the internal reference count is increased by one each time *elf* is passed to **elf_begin** as the *ref* argument.

An ELF descriptor whose reference count reaches zero is invalidated. Further operations on the descriptor will result in undefined behavior.

PARAMETERS

elf The ELF descriptor (may be NULL).

RETURN VALUE

Return the ELF descriptor's current internal reference count after decrementing. A return value of zero indicates the ELF descriptor is now invalidated. If *elf* is NULL, then **elf_end** also returns 0.

SEE ALSO

elf_begin(3), **libelf**(3), **elf**(5)

ATTRIBUTES

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see **attributes**(7).

Interface	Attribute	Value
elf_end ()	Thread safety	MT-Safe

REPORTING BUGS

Report bugs to <elfutils-devel@sourceware.org> or <https://sourceware.org/bugzilla/>.