

## CHOWN(II)

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### NAME

`chown` – change owner and group of a file

### SYNOPSIS

(`chmod = 16.`)  
**sys `chown`; `name`; `owner`**  
**`chown`(`name`, `owner`)**  
**char \*`name`;**

### DESCRIPTION

The file whose name is given by the null-terminated string pointed to by *name* has its owner and group changed to the low and high bytes of *owner* respectively. Only the super-user may execute this call, because if users were able to give files away, they could defeat the (non-existent) file-space accounting procedures.

### SEE ALSO

`chown` (VIII), `passwd` (V)

### DIAGNOSTICS

The error bit (c-bit) is set on illegal owner changes. From C a `-1` returned value indicates error, `0` indicates success.

### FUTURE CHANGE

The *owner* argument will be replaced by a *owner, groupowner*. You can safely code the new format; however, the third argument will be ignored.