



Note: This API call is for DOS and Win16 personality only. Use [Family API](#) for portability.

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Int 21H, AH=3EH

Version

2 and higher

Brief

“CLOSE” - CLOSE FILE

Family API

Input

```
AH = 3Eh
BX = file handle
```

Return

CF clear if successful

```
AX destroyed
CF set on error
AX = error code (06h) (see #01680 at AH=59h/BX=0000h)
```

Notes

if the file was written to, any pending disk writes are performed, the time and date stamps are set to the current time, and the directory entry is updated

recent versions of DOS preserve AH because some versions of Multiplan had a bug which depended on AH being preserved

See also

AH=10h,AH=3Ch,AH=3Dh,INT 2F/AX=1106h,INT 2F/AX=1227h

Note

Text based on [Ralf Brown Interrupt List Release 61](#)

| DOS API | |
|----------------------|--|
| Process manager | INT 20H, INT 21H : 00H, 25H, 26H, 31H, 34H, 35H, 4BH, 4CH, 4DH, 50H, 51H, 52H, 55H, 62H, INT 22H, INT 27H, INT 28H |
| File manager | INT 25H, INT 26H, INT 21H : 0DH, 0EH, 0FH, 10H, 11H, 12H, 13H, 14H, 15H, 16H, 17H, 19H, 1AH, 1BH, 1CH, 21H, 22H, 23H, 24H, 27H, 28H, 29H, 2EH, 2FH, 32H, 3305H, 36H, 39H, 3AH, 3BH, 3CH, 3DH, 3EH, 3FH, 40H, 41H, 42H, 4300H, 4301H, 45H, 45H, 46H, 4EH, 4FH, 54H, 56H, 5700H, 5701H, 5AH, 5BH, 5c00H, 5c01H, 60H, 67H, 68H, 6900H, 6901H, 6AH, 6CH |
| Character Device I/O | INT 29H, INT 21H : 01H, 02H, 03H, 04H, 05H, 06H, 07H, 08H, 09H, 0AH, 0BH, 0AH, 0CH, 5D07H, 5D08H, 5D09H, 5D0AH |
| Signals | INT 23H, INT 24H, INT 21H : 3300H, 3301H, 3302H |
| Memory manager | INT 21H : 48H, 49H, 4AH, 5800H, 5801H, 5802H, 5803H |
| Date and Time | INT 21H : 2AH, 2BH, 2CH, 2DH |
| Misc | INT 21H : 30H, 3306H, 3700H, 3701H, 3702H, 3703H, 59H |
| NLS | INT 21H : 3303H, 3304H, 3800H, 3801H, 6300H, 6301H, 6301H, 6500H, 6501H, 6502H, 6503H, 6504H, 6505H, 6506H, 6507H, 6520H, 6521H, 6522H, 6523H, 65A0H, 65A1H, 65A2H, 6601H, 6602H |
| Devices | INT 21H : 4400H, 4401H, 4402H, 4403H, 4404H, 4405H, 4406H, 4407H, 4408H, 4409H, 440AH, 440BH, 440CH, 440DH, 440EH, 440FH, 4410H, 4411H, 53H |
| Network | INT 21H : 5E00H, 5E01H, 5E02H, 5E03H, 5E04H, 5E05H, 5F00H, 5F01H, 5F02H, 5F03H, 5F04H, 5F05H, 5F07H, 5F08H |

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| | |
|----------------|--|
| Video I/O | @SetMode @SetCurSz @SetCurPos @GetCur @SetPage @ScrollUp @ScrollDn @Scroll @GetChAtr @PutChAtr @PutCh @SetPalet @SetColor @SetDot @GetDot @WrtTTY @VideoState @GetMode @GetDisplay @GetVideoState @GetEGAInfo @Cls |
| Hardware info | @Equipment @MemSize |
| Serial I/O | @AuxInit @AuxSendChar @AuxRecieveChar @AuxStatus |
| Tape I/O | @TapeOn @TapeOff @TapeRead @TapeWrite |
| Keyboard I/O | @KbdStatus @CharIn @CharPeek |
| Printer I/O | @PrnPrint @PrnInit @PrnStatus |
| Disk I/O | @DskReset @DskStatus @DskRead @DskWrite @DskVerify @DskFormat |
| Date and Time | @SetTime @GetTime |
| Mouse | @MouInit @MouShowPointer @MouStatus @MouSetPos @MouSetMickey @MouRegion |
| Memory manager | @ModBlok SET_BLOCK |

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| Family API | | |
|------------|-----------------|--|
| DOS | Process Manager | DosBeep DosExit DosSleep DosExecPgm |
| | File Manager | DosChDir DosChgFilePtr DosClose DosDelete DosDupHandle DosMkDir DosMove DosQCurDir DosQCurDisk DosSetFileMode DosOpen DosQFileInfo DosRead DosQFileMode DosQFSInfo DosQVerify DosRmdir DosSelectDisk DosFindClose DosFindFirst DosFindNext DosSetFileInfo DosSetVerify DosWrite DosFileLocks DosSetFHandState DosNewSize DosBufReset DosQFHandState DosSetFSinfo DosShutdown |
| | Memory Manager | DosFreeSeg DosSubAlloc DosSubFree DosSubSet DosAllocHuge DosAllocSeg DosReallocHuge DosReallocSeg DosGetHugeShift DosCreateCSAlias |
| | NLS | DosCaseMap DosGetCtryInfo DosGetDBCSEv DosSetCtryCode DosGetCollate DosGetMessage DosInsMessage DosPutMessage |
| | Date and Time | DosSetDateTime DosGetDateTime |
| | Devices | DosDevConfig DosDevIOct1 DosDevIOct2 |
| | Signals | DosHoldSignal DosSetSigHandler |
| | Misc | BadDynLink DosGetEnv DosGetMachineMode DosGetVersion DosError DosErrClass DosSetVec |
| KBD | | KbdCharIn KbdFlushBuffer KbdGetStatus KbdSetStatus KbdStringIn KbdPeek |
| VIO | | VioGetBuf VioGetConfig VioGetCurPos VioGetCurType VioGetPhysBuf VioReadCellStr VioReadCharStr VioScrollUp VioScrollDn VioScrollLf VioScrollRt VioScrUnLock VioSetCurPos VioSetCurType VioSetMode VioGetMode VioShowBuf VioWrtCellStr VioWrtCharStr VioWrtCharStrAtt VioWrtNAttr VioWrtNCell VioWrtNChar VioWrtTTY VioScrLock VioPopUp |
| Tools | | BIND |
| Modules | | DOSCALLS.DLL VIOCALLS.DLL KBDCALLS.DLL MSG.DLL |
| Libraries | | API.LIB OS2386.LIB FAPI.LIB DOSCALLS.LIB SUBCALLS.LIB |

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