

**NAME**

curl\_easy\_init - Start a libcurl easy session

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <curl/curl.h>
```

```
CURL *curl_easy_init( );
```

**DESCRIPTION**

This function must be the first function to call, and it returns a CURL easy handle that you must use as input to other easy-functions. `curl_easy_init` initializes curl and this call **MUST** have a corresponding call to `curl_easy_cleanup(3)` when the operation is complete.

If you did not already call `curl_global_init(3)`, `curl_easy_init(3)` does it automatically. This may be lethal in multi-threaded cases, since `curl_global_init(3)` is not thread-safe, and it may result in resource problems because there is no corresponding cleanup.

You are strongly advised to not allow this automatic behaviour, by calling `curl_global_init(3)` yourself properly. See the description in **libcurl(3)** of global environment requirements for details of how to use this function.

**RETURN VALUE**

If this function returns NULL, something went wrong and you cannot use the other curl functions.

**SEE ALSO**

`curl_easy_cleanup(3)`, `curl_global_init(3)`, `curl_easy_reset(3)`