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Clam AntiVirus 0.97.3  
*User Manual*

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# 1 Introduction

Clam AntiVirus is an open source (GPL) anti-virus toolkit for UNIX, designed especially for e-mail scanning on mail gateways. It provides a number of utilities including a flexible and scalable multi-threaded daemon, a command line scanner and advanced tool for automatic database updates. The core of the package is an anti-virus engine available in a form of shared library.

## 1.1 Features

- Licensed under the GNU General Public License, Version 2
- POSIX compliant, portable
- Fast scanning
- Supports on-access scanning (Linux and FreeBSD only)
- Detects over 1 million viruses, worms and trojans, including Microsoft Office macro viruses, mobile malware, and other threats
- Built-in bytecode interpreter allows the ClamAV signature writers to create and distribute very complex detection routines and remotely enhance the scanner's functionality
- Scans within archives and compressed files (also protects against archive bombs), built-in support includes:
  - Zip (including SFX)
  - RAR (including SFX)
  - 7Zip
  - ARJ (including SFX)
  - Tar
  - CPIO
  - Gzip
  - Bzip2
  - MS OLE2
  - MS Cabinet Files (including SFX)
  - MS CHM (Compiled HTML)

- MS SZDD compression format
  - BinHex
  - SIS (SymbianOS packages)
  - AutoIt
  - InstallShield
- Supports Portable Executable (32/64-bit) files compressed or obfuscated with:
  - AsPack
  - UPX
  - FSG
  - Petite
  - PeSpin
  - NsPack
  - wwpack32
  - MEW
  - Upack
  - Y0da Cryptor
- Supports ELF and Mach-O files (both 32- and 64-bit)
- Supports almost all mail file formats
- Support for other special files/formats includes:
  - HTML
  - RTF
  - PDF
  - Files encrypted with CryptFF and ScrEnc
  - uuencode
  - TNEF (winmail.dat)
- Advanced database updater with support for scripted updates, digital signatures and DNS based database version queries

## 1.2 Mailing lists and IRC channel

If you have a trouble installing or using ClamAV try asking on our mailing lists. There are four lists available:

- **clamav-announce@lists.clamav.net** - info about new versions, moderated<sup>1</sup>.
- **clamav-users@lists.clamav.net** - user questions
- **clamav-devel@lists.clamav.net** - technical discussions
- **clamav-virusdb@lists.clamav.net** - database update announcements, moderated

You can subscribe and search the mailing list archives at: <http://www.clamav.net/support/ml/>

Alternatively you can try asking on the #clamav IRC channel - launch your favourite irc client and type:

```
/server irc.freenode.net  
/join #clamav
```

## 1.3 Virus submitting

If you have got a virus which is not detected by your ClamAV with the latest databases, please submit the sample at our website:

<http://www.clamav.net/sendvirus>

# 2 Base package

## 2.1 Supported platforms

### 2.1.1 UNIX

The most popular UNIX operating systems are supported. Clam AntiVirus 0.9x is regularly tested on:

- GNU/Linux
- Solaris
- FreeBSD

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<sup>1</sup>Subscribers are not allowed to post to the mailing list

- OpenBSD <sup>2</sup>
- Mac OS X

### 2.1.2 Windows

Starting with 0.96 ClamAV builds natively under Visual Studio.

## 2.2 Binary packages

You can find the up-to-date list of binary packages at our website: <http://www.clamav.net/download/packages/>

# 3 Installation

## 3.1 Requirements

The following components are required to compile ClamAV under UNIX: <sup>3</sup>

- zlib and zlib-devel packages
- gcc compiler suite (tested with 2.9x, 3.x and 4.x series)  
**If you are compiling with higher optimization levels than the default one (-O2 for gcc), be aware that there have been reports of misoptimizations. The build system of ClamAV only checks for bugs affecting the default settings, it is your responsibility to check that your compiler version doesn't have any bugs.**

The following packages are optional but **highly recommended**:

- bzip2 and bzip2-devel library
- check unit testing framework <sup>4</sup>.

The following packages are optional, but **required for bytecode JIT support**: <sup>5</sup>

- GCC C and C++ compilers (minimum 4.1.3, recommended 4.3.4 or newer)  
the package for these compilers are usually called: gcc, g++, or gcc-c++. <sup>6</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup>Installation from a port is recommended.

<sup>3</sup>For Windows instructions please see win32/README in the main source code directory.

<sup>4</sup>See section 3.6 on how to run the unit tests

<sup>5</sup>if not available ClamAV will fall back to an interpreter

<sup>6</sup>Note that several versions of GCC have bugs when compiling LLVM, see <http://llvm.org/docs/GettingStarted.html#brokengcc> for a full list.



- A supported CPU for the JIT, either of: X86, X86-64, PowerPC, PowerPC64

The following packages are optional, but needed for the JIT unit tests:

- GNU Make (version 3.79, recommended 3.81)
- Python (version 2.5.4 or newer), for running the JIT unit tests

## 3.2 Installing on shell account

To install ClamAV locally on an unprivileged shell account you need not create any additional users or groups. Assuming your home directory is `/home/gary` you should build it as follows:

```
$ ./configure --prefix=/home/gary/clamav --disable-clamav
$ make; make install
```

To test your installation execute:

```
$ ~/clamav/bin/freshclam
$ ~/clamav/bin/clamscan ~
```

The `--disable-clamav` switch disables the check for existence of the *clamav* user and group but *clamscan* would still require an unprivileged account to work in a superuser mode.

## 3.3 Adding new system user and group

If you are installing ClamAV for the first time, you have to add a new user and group to your system:

```
# groupadd clamav
# useradd -g clamav -s /bin/false -c "Clam AntiVirus" clamav
```

Consult a system manual if your OS has not *groupadd* and *useradd* utilities. **Don't forget to lock access to the account!**

### 3.4 Compilation of base package

Once you have created the clamav user and group, please extract the archive:

```
$ zcat clamav-x.yz.tar.gz | tar xvf -
$ cd clamav-x.yz
```

Assuming you want to install the configuration files in /etc, configure and build the software as follows:

```
$ ./configure --sysconfdir=/etc
$ make
$ su -c "make install"
```

In the last step the software is installed into the /usr/local directory and the config files into /etc. **WARNING: Never enable the SUID or SGID bits for Clam AntiVirus binaries.**

### 3.5 Compilation with clamav-milter enabled

libmilter and its development files are required. To enable clamav-milter, configure ClamAV with

```
$ ./configure --enable-milter
```

### 3.6 Running unit tests

ClamAV includes unit tests that allow you to test that the compiled binaries work correctly on your platform.

The first step is to use your OS's package manager to install the check package. If your OS doesn't have that package, you can download it from <http://check.sourceforge.net/>, build it and install it.

To help clamav's configure script locate check, it is recommended that you install pkg-config, preferably using your OS's package manager, or from <http://pkg-config.freedesktop.org>.

The recommended way to run unit-tests is the following, which ensures you will get an error if unit tests cannot be built: <sup>7</sup>

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<sup>7</sup>The configure script in ClamAV automatically enables the unit tests, if it finds the check framework, however it doesn't consider it a fatal error if unit tests cannot be enabled.

```
$ ./configure --enable-check
$ make
$ make check
```

When `make check` is finished, you should get a message similar to this:

```
=====
All 8 tests passed
=====
```

If a unit test fails, you get a message similar to the following. See the next section on how to report a bug when a unit test fails.

```
=====
1 of 8 tests failed
Please report to http://bugs.clamav.net/
=====
```

If unit tests are disabled (and you didn't use `--enable-check`), you will get this message:

```
*** Unit tests disabled in this build
*** Use ./configure --enable-check to enable them
```

```
SKIP: check_clamav
PASS: check_clamd.sh
PASS: check_freshclam.sh
PASS: check_sigtool.sh
PASS: check_clamscan.sh
```

```
=====
All 4 tests passed
(1 tests were not run)
=====
```

Running `./configure --enable-check` should tell you why.

### 3.7 Reporting a unit test failure bug

If `make check` says that some tests failed we encourage you to report a bug on our bugzilla: <http://bugs.clamav.net>. The information we need is (see also <http://clamav.net/bugs>):

- The exact output from `make check`

- Output of `uname -m`
- your `config.log`
- The following files from the `unit_tests/` directory:
  - `test.log`
  - `clamscan.log`
  - `clamdscan.log`
- `/tmp/clamd-test.log` if it exists
- where and how you installed the check package
- Output of `pkg-config check --cflags --libs`
- Optionally if `valgrind` is available on your platform, the output of the following:

```
$ make check
$ CK_FORK=no ./libtool --mode=execute valgrind unit_tests/check-clamav
```

## 4 Configuration

### 4.1 clamd

Before you start using the daemon you have to edit the configuration file (in other case `clamd` won't run):

```
$ clamd
ERROR: Please edit the example config file /etc/clamd.conf.
```

This shows the location of the default configuration file. The format and options of this file are fully described in the *clamd.conf(5)* manual. The config file is well commented and configuration should be straightforward.

#### 4.1.1 On-access scanning

One of the interesting features of `clamd` is on-access scanning based on the Dazuko module, available from <http://dazuko.org/>. **This module is not required to run clamd - furthermore, you shouldn't run Dazuko on production systems.** At the moment Dazuko is available for Linux and FreeBSD, but the following information only covers Linux.

```
$ tar xpvf dazuko-a.b.c.tar.gz
$ cd dazuko-a.b.c
$ make dazuko
or
$ make dazuko-smp (for smp kernels)
$ su
# insmod dazuko.o
# cp dazuko.o /lib/modules/`uname -r`/misc
# depmod -a
```

Depending on your Linux distribution you may need to add a "dazuko" entry to */etc/modules* or run the module during system's startup by adding

```
/sbin/modprobe dazuko
```

to some startup file. You must also create a new device:

```
$ cat /proc/devices | grep dazuko
254 dazuko
$ su -c "mknod -m 600 /dev/dazuko c 254 0"
```

Now configure Clamuko in *clamd.conf* and read the 5.3 section.

## 4.2 clamav-milter

ClamAV  $\geq$  0.95 includes a new, redesigned clamav-milter. The most notable difference is that the internal mode has been dropped and now a working clamd companion is required. The second important difference is that now the milter has got its own configuration and log files. To compile ClamAV with the clamav-milter just run `./configure --enable-milter` and make as usual. Please consult your MTA's manual on how to connect it with the milter.

## 4.3 Testing

Try to scan recursively the source directory:

```
$ clamscan -r -l scan.txt clamav-x.yz
```

It should find some test files in the `clamav-x.yz/test` directory. The scan result will be saved in the `scan.txt` log file <sup>8</sup>. To test `clamd`, start it and use `clamscan` (or instead connect directly to its socket and run the `SCAN` command):

```
$ clamscan -l scan.txt clamav-x.yz
```

Please note that the scanned files must be accessible by the user running `clamd` or you will get an error.

## 4.4 Setting up auto-updating

`freshclam` is the automatic database update tool for Clam AntiVirus. It can work in two modes:

- interactive - on demand from command line
- daemon - silently in the background

`freshclam` is advanced tool: it supports scripted updates (instead of transferring the whole CVD file at each update it only transfers the differences between the latest and the current database via a special script), database version checks through DNS, proxy servers (with authentication), digital signatures and various error scenarios. **Quick test: run `freshclam` (as superuser) with no parameters and check the output.** If everything is OK you may create the log file in `/var/log` (owned by `clamav` or another user `freshclam` will be running as):

```
# touch /var/log/freshclam.log
# chmod 600 /var/log/freshclam.log
# chown clamav /var/log/freshclam.log
```

Now you *should* edit the configuration file `freshclam.conf` and point the *UpdateLogFile* directive to the log file. Finally, to run `freshclam` in the daemon mode, execute:

```
# freshclam -d
```

The other way is to use the `cron` daemon. You have to add the following line to the crontab of **root** or **clamav** user:

```
N * * * * /usr/local/bin/freshclam --quiet
```

---

<sup>8</sup>To get more info on `clamscan` options run `'man clamscan'`

to check for a new database every hour. **N should be a number between 3 and 57 of your choice. Please don't choose any multiple of 10, because there are already too many clients using those time slots.** Proxy settings are only configurable via the configuration file and `freshclam` will require strict permission settings for the config file when `HTTPProxyPassword` is turned on.

```
HTTPProxyServer myproxyserver.com
HTTPProxyPort 1234
HTTPProxyUsername myusername
HTTPProxyPassword mypass
```

#### 4.4.1 Closest mirrors

The `DatabaseMirror` directive in the config file specifies the database server `freshclam` will attempt (up to `MaxAttempts` times) to download the database from. The default database mirror is `database.clamav.net` but multiple directives are allowed. In order to download the database from the closest mirror you should configure `freshclam` to use `db.xx.clamav.net` where `xx` represents your country code. For example, if your server is in "Ascension Island" you should have the following lines included in `freshclam.conf`:

```
DNSDatabaseInfo current.cvd.clamav.net
DatabaseMirror db.ac.clamav.net
DatabaseMirror database.clamav.net
```

The second entry acts as a fallback in case the connection to the first mirror fails for some reason. The full list of two-letters country codes is available at <http://www.iana.org/cctld/cctld-whois.htm>

## 4.5 ClamAV Active Malware Report

The ClamAV Active Malware Report that was introduced in ClamAV 0.94.1 uses `freshclam` to send summary data to our server about the malware that has been detected. This data is then used to generate real-time reports on active malware. These reports, along with geographical and historic trends, will be published on <http://www.clamav.net/>.

The more data that we receive from ClamAV users, the more reports, and the better the quality of the reports, will be. To enable the submission of data to us for use in the Active Malware Report, enable `SubmitDetectionStats` in `freshclam.conf`, and `LogTime` and `LogFile` in `clamd.conf`. You should only enable this feature if you're running `clamd` to scan incoming data in your environment.

The only private data that is transferred is an IP address, which is used to create the geographical data. The size of the data that is sent is small; it contains just the filename, malware name and time of detection. The data is sent in sets of 10 records, up to 50 records per session. For example, if you have 45 new records, then freshclam will submit 40; if 78 then it will submit the latest 50 entries; and if you have 9 records no statistics will be sent.

## 5 Usage

### 5.1 Clam daemon

`clamd` is a multi-threaded daemon that uses *libclamav* to scan files for viruses. It may work in one or both modes listening on:

- Unix (local) socket
- TCP socket

The daemon is fully configurable via the `clamd.conf` file <sup>9</sup>. `clamd` recognizes the following commands:

- **PING**  
Check the daemon's state (should reply with "PONG").
- **VERSION**  
Print program and database versions.
- **RELOAD**  
Reload the databases.
- **SHUTDOWN**  
Perform a clean exit.
- **SCAN file/directory**  
Scan file or directory (recursively) with archive support enabled (a full path is required).
- **RAWSCAN file/directory**  
Scan file or directory (recursively) with archive and special file support disabled (a full path is required).

---

<sup>9</sup>man 5 clamd.conf



- **CONTSCAN file/directory**  
Scan file or directory (recursively) with archive support enabled and don't stop the scanning when a virus is found.
- **MULTISCAN file/directory**  
Scan file in a standard way or scan directory (recursively) using multiple threads (to make the scanning faster on SMP machines).
- **INSTREAM**  
*It is mandatory to prefix this command with **n** or **z**.*  
Scan a stream of data. The stream is sent to clamd in chunks, after INSTREAM, on the same socket on which the command was sent. This avoids the overhead of establishing new TCP connections and problems with NAT. The format of the chunk is: <length><data> where <length> is the size of the following data in bytes expressed as a 4 byte unsigned integer in network byte order and <data> is the actual chunk. Streaming is terminated by sending a zero-length chunk. Note: do not exceed StreamMaxLength as defined in clamd.conf, otherwise clamd will reply with *INSTREAM size limit exceeded* and close the connection.
- **FILDES**  
*It is mandatory to newline terminate this command, or prefix with **n** or **z**. This command only works on UNIX domain sockets.*  
Scan a file descriptor. After issuing a FILDES command a subsequent rfc2292/bsd4.4 style packet (with at least one dummy character) is sent to clamd carrying the file descriptor to be scanned inside the ancillary data. Alternatively the file descriptor may be sent in the same packet, including the extra character.
- **STATS**  
*It is mandatory to newline terminate this command, or prefix with **n** or **z**, it is recommended to only use the **z** prefix.*  
On this command clamd provides statistics about the scan queue, contents of scan queue, and memory usage. The exact reply format is subject to changes in future releases.
- **IDSESSION, END**  
*It is mandatory to prefix this command with **n** or **z**, also all commands inside **IDSESSION** must be prefixed.*  
Start/end a clamd session. Within a session multiple SCAN, INSTREAM, FILDES, VERSION, STATS commands can be sent on the same socket without opening new connections. Replies from clamd will be in the form <id>: <response> where <id> is the request number (in ASCII, starting from 1) and <response> is the usual clamd reply. The reply lines have the same delimiter as the corresponding command had. Clamd will process the commands asynchronously, and

reply as soon as it has finished processing. Clamd requires clients to read all the replies it sent, before sending more commands to prevent `send()` deadlocks. The recommended way to implement a client that uses `IDSESSION` is with non-blocking sockets, and a `select()/poll()` loop: whenever `send` would block, sleep in `select/poll` until either you can write more data, or read more replies. *Note that using non-blocking sockets without the `select/poll` loop and alternating `recv()/send()` doesn't comply with clamd's requirements.* If clamd detects that a client has deadlocked, it will close the connection. Note that clamd may close an `IDSESSION` connection too if the client doesn't follow the protocol's requirements.

- **STREAM** (deprecated, use **INSTREAM** instead)  
Scan stream: clamd will return a new port number you should connect to and send data to scan.

It's recommended to prefix clamd commands with the letter **z** (eg. `zSCAN`) to indicate that the command will be delimited by a `NULL` character and that clamd should continue reading command data until a `NULL` character is read. The null delimiter assures that the complete command and its entire argument will be processed as a single command. Alternatively commands may be prefixed with the letter **n** (e.g. `nSCAN`) to use a newline character as the delimiter. Clamd replies will honour the requested terminator in turn. If clamd doesn't recognize the command, or the command doesn't follow the requirements specified below, it will reply with an error message, and close the connection. Clamd can handle the following signals:

- **SIGTERM** - perform a clean exit
- **SIGHUP** - reopen the log file
- **SIGUSR2** - reload the database

Clamd should not be started in the background using the shell operator `&` or external tools. Instead, you should run and wait for clamd to load the database and daemonize itself. After that, clamd is instantly ready to accept connections and perform file scanning.

## 5.2 Clamscan

`clamscan` is a simple clamd client. In many cases you can use it as a `clamscan` replacement however you must remember that:

- it only depends on `clamd`
- although it accepts the same command line options as `clamscan` most of them are ignored because they must be enabled directly in `clamd`, i.e. `clamd.conf`

- in TCP mode scanned files must be accessible for `clamd`, if you enabled Local-socket in `clamd.conf` then `clamscan` will try to workaroud this limitation by using `FILDES`

## 5.3 Clamuko

Clamuko is a special thread in `clamd` that performs on-access scanning under Linux and FreeBSD and shares internal virus database with the daemon. **You must follow some important rules when using it:**

- Always stop the daemon cleanly - using the `SHUTDOWN` command or the `SIGTERM` signal. In other case you can lose access to protected files until the system is restarted.
- Never protect the directory your mail-scanner software uses for attachment unpacking. Access to all infected files will be automatically blocked and the scanner (including `clamd`!) will not be able to detect any viruses. In the result **all infected mails may be delivered.**

For example, to protect the whole system add the following lines to `clamd.conf`:

```
ClamukoScanOnAccess
ClamukoIncludePath /
ClamukoExcludePath /proc
ClamukoExcludePath /temporary/dir/of/your/mail/scanning/software
```

You can also use `clamuko` to protect files on Samba/Netatalk but a far more better and safe idea is to use the **samba-vscan** module. NFS is not supported because `Dazuko` doesn't intercept NFS access calls.

## 5.4 Output format

### 5.4.1 clamscan

`clamscan` writes all regular program messages to **stdout** and errors/warnings to **stderr**. You can use the option `--stdout` to redirect all program messages to **stdout**. Warnings and error messages from `libclamav` are always printed to **stderr**. A typical output from `clamscan` looks like this:

```
/tmp/test/removal-tool.exe: Worm.Sober FOUND
/tmp/test/md5.o: OK
/tmp/test/blob.c: OK
```

```
/tmp/test/message.c: OK  
/tmp/test/error.hta: VBS.Inor.D FOUND
```

When a virus is found its name is printed between the filename: and FOUND strings. In case of archives the scanner depends on libclamav and only prints the first virus found within an archive:

```
zolw@localhost:/tmp$ clamscan malware.zip  
malware.zip: Worm.Mydoom.U FOUND
```

### 5.4.2 clamd

The output format of clamd is very similar to clamscan.

```
zolw@localhost:~$ telnet localhost 3310  
Trying 127.0.0.1...  
Connected to localhost.  
Escape character is '^]'.  
SCAN /home/zolw/test  
/home/zolw/test/clam.exe: ClamAV-Test-File FOUND  
Connection closed by foreign host.
```

In the **SCAN** mode it closes the connection when the first virus is found.

```
SCAN /home/zolw/test/clam.zip  
/home/zolw/test/clam.zip: ClamAV-Test-File FOUND
```

**CONTSCAN** and **MULTISCAN** don't stop scanning in case a virus is found. Error messages are printed in the following format:

```
SCAN /no/such/file  
/no/such/file: Can't stat() the file. ERROR
```

## 6 LibClamAV

Libclamav provides an easy and effective way to add a virus protection into your software. The library is thread-safe and transparently recognizes and scans within archives, mail files, MS Office document files, executables and other special formats.

## 6.1 Licence

Libclamav is licensed under the GNU GPL v2 licence. This means you are **not allowed** to link commercial, closed-source software against it. All software using libclamav must be GPL compliant.

## 6.2 Supported formats and features

### 6.2.1 Executables

The library has a built-in support for 32- and 64-bit Portable Executable, ELF and Mach-O files. Additionally, it can handle PE files compressed or obfuscated with the following tools:

- Aspack (2.12)
- UPX (all versions)
- FSG (1.3, 1.31, 1.33, 2.0)
- Petite (2.x)
- PeSpin (1.1)
- NsPack
- wwpack32 (1.20)
- MEW
- Upack
- Y0da Cryptor (1.3)

### 6.2.2 Mail files

Libclamav can handle almost every mail file format including TNEF (winmail.dat) attachments.

### 6.2.3 Archives and compressed files

The following archive and compression formats are supported by internal handlers:

- Zip (+ SFX)
- RAR (+ SFX)

- 7Zip
- Tar
- CPIO
- Gzip
- Bzip2
- MS OLE2
- MS Cabinet Files (+ SFX)
- MS CHM (Compiled HTML)
- MS SZDD compression format
- BinHex
- SIS (SymbianOS packages)
- AutoIt
- NSIS
- InstallShield

#### 6.2.4 Documents

The most popular file formats are supported:

- MS Office and MacOffice files
- RTF
- PDF
- HTML

In the case of Office, RTF and PDF files, libclamav will only extract the embedded objects and will not decode the text data itself. The text decoding and normalization is only performed for HTML files.

#### 6.2.5 Data Loss Prevention

Libclamav includes a DLP module which can detect credit card and social security numbers inside text files.

### 6.2.6 Others

Libclamav can handle various obfuscators, encoders, files vulnerable to security risks such as:

- JPEG (exploit detection)
- RIFF (exploit detection)
- uuencode
- ScrEnc obfuscation
- CryptFF

## 6.3 API

### 6.3.1 Header file

Every program using libclamav must include the header file `clamav.h`:

```
#include <clamav.h>
```

### 6.3.2 Initialization

Before using libclamav, you should call `cl_init()` to initialize it. When it's done, you're ready to create a new scan engine by calling `cl_engine_new()`. To free resources allocated by the engine use `cl_engine_free()`. Function prototypes:

```
int cl_init(unsigned int options);  
struct cl_engine *cl_engine_new(void);  
int cl_engine_free(struct cl_engine *engine);
```

`cl_init()` and `cl_engine_free()` return `CL_SUCCESS` on success or another code on error. `cl_engine_new()` return a pointer or `NULL` if there's not enough memory to allocate a new engine structure.

### 6.3.3 Database loading

The following set of functions provides an interface for loading the virus database:

```
const char *cl_retdbdir(void);

int cl_load(const char *path, struct cl_engine *engine,
            unsigned int *signo, unsigned int options);
```

`cl_retdbdir()` returns the default (hardcoded) path to the directory with ClamAV databases. `cl_load()` loads a single database file or all databases from a given directory (when `path` points to a directory). The second argument is used for passing in the pointer to the engine that should be previously allocated with `cl_engine_new()`. A number of loaded signatures will be **added** to `signo`<sup>10</sup>. The last argument can pass the following flags:

- **CL\_DB\_STDOPT**  
This is an alias for a recommended set of scan options.
- **CL\_DB\_PHISHING**  
Load phishing signatures.
- **CL\_DB\_PHISHING\_URLS**  
Initialize the phishing detection module and load `.wdb` and `.pdb` files.
- **CL\_DB\_PUA**  
Load signatures for Potentially Unwanted Applications.
- **CL\_DB\_OFFICIAL\_ONLY**  
Only load official signatures from digitally signed databases.
- **CL\_DB\_BYTECODE**  
Load bytecode.

`cl_load()` returns `CL_SUCCESS` on success and another code on failure.

```
...
struct cl_engine *engine;
unsigned int sigs = 0;
int ret;

if((ret = cl_init()) != CL_SUCCESS) {
    printf("cl_init() error: %s\n", cl_strerror(ret));
    return 1;
}
```

---

<sup>10</sup>Remember to initialize the virus counter variable with 0.



```
if(!(engine = cl_engine_new())) {
    printf("Can't create new engine\n");
    return 1;
}

ret = cl_load(cl_retdbdir(), engine, &sig, CL_DB_STDOPT);
```

### 6.3.4 Error handling

Use `cl_strerror()` to convert error codes into human readable messages. The function returns a statically allocated string:

```
if(ret != CL_SUCCESS) {
    printf("cl_load() error: %s\n", cl_strerror(ret));
    cl_engine_free(engine);
    return 1;
}
```

### 6.3.5 Engine structure

When all required databases are loaded you should prepare the detection engine by calling `cl_engine_compile()`. In case of failure you should still free the memory allocated to the engine with `cl_engine_free()`:

```
int cl_engine_compile(struct cl_engine *engine);
```

In our example:

```
if((ret = cl_engine_compile(engine)) != CL_SUCCESS) {
    printf("cl_engine_compile() error: %s\n", cl_strerror(ret));
    cl_engine_free(engine);
    return 1;
}
```

### 6.3.6 Limits

When you create a new engine with `cl_engine_new()`, it will have all internal settings set to default values as recommended by the ClamAV authors. It's possible to check and modify the values (numerical and strings) using the following set of functions:

```
int cl_engine_set_num(struct cl_engine *engine,
    enum cl_engine_field field, long long num);

long long cl_engine_get_num(const struct cl_engine *engine,
    enum cl_engine_field field, int *err);

int cl_engine_set_str(struct cl_engine *engine,
    enum cl_engine_field field, const char *str);

const char *cl_engine_get_str(const struct cl_engine *engine,
    enum cl_engine_field field, int *err);
```

Please don't modify the default values unless you know what you're doing. Refer to the ClamAV sources (clamscan, clamd) for examples.

### 6.3.7 Database checks

It's very important to keep the internal instance of the database up to date. You can watch database changes with the `cl_stat..()` family of functions.

```
int cl_statinidir(const char *dirname, struct cl_stat *dbstat);
int cl_statchkdir(const struct cl_stat *dbstat);
int cl_statfree(struct cl_stat *dbstat);
```

**Initialization:**

```
...
    struct cl_stat dbstat;

memset(&dbstat, 0, sizeof(struct cl_stat));
cl_statinidir(dbdir, &dbstat);
```

To check for a change you just need to call `cl_statchkdir` and check its return value (0 - no change, 1 - some change occurred). Remember to reset the `cl_stat` structure after reloading the database.

```
if(cl_statchkdir(&dbstat) == 1) {
    reload_database...;
    cl_statfree(&dbstat);
    cl_statinidir(cl_retdbdir(), &dbstat);
}
```

Libclamav  $\geq$  0.96 includes an additional call to check the number of signatures that can be loaded from a given directory:

```
int cl_countsigs(const char *path, unsigned int countoptions,
                unsigned int *sigs);
```

The first argument points to the database directory, the second one specifies what signatures should be counted: `CL_COUNTSIGS_OFFICIAL` (official signatures), `CL_COUNTSIGS_UNOFFICIAL` (third party signatures), `CL_COUNTSIGS_ALL` (all signatures). The last argument points to the counter to which the number of detected signatures will be added (therefore the counter should be initially set to 0). The call returns `CL_SUCCESS` or an error code.

### 6.3.8 Data scan functions

It's possible to scan a file or descriptor using:

```
int cl_scanfile(const char *filename, const char **virname,
               unsigned long int *scanned, const struct cl_engine *engine,
               unsigned int options);
```

```
int cl_scandesc(int desc, const char **virname, unsigned
               long int *scanned, const struct cl_engine *engine,
               unsigned int options);
```

Both functions will store a virus name under the pointer `virname`, the virus name is part of the engine structure and must not be released directly. If the third argument (`scanned`) is not `NULL`, the functions will increase its value with the size of scanned data (in `CL_COUNT_PRECISION` units). The last argument (`options`) specified the scan options and supports the following flags (which can be combined using bit operators):

- **CL\_SCAN\_STDOPT**  
This is an alias for a recommended set of scan options. You should use it to make your software ready for new features in the future versions of libclamav.
- **CL\_SCAN\_RAW**  
Use it alone if you want to disable support for special files.
- **CL\_SCAN\_ARCHIVE**  
This flag enables transparent scanning of various archive formats.

- **CL\_SCAN\_BLOCKENCRYPTED**  
With this flag the library will mark encrypted archives as viruses (Encrypted.Zip, Encrypted.RAR).
- **CL\_SCAN\_MAIL**  
Enable support for mail files.
- **CL\_SCAN\_OLE2**  
Enables support for OLE2 containers (used by MS Office and .msi files).
- **CL\_SCAN\_PDF**  
Enables scanning within PDF files.
- **CL\_SCAN\_PE**  
This flag enables deep scanning of Portable Executable files and allows libclamav to unpack executables compressed with run-time unpackers.
- **CL\_SCAN\_ELF**  
Enable support for ELF files.
- **CL\_SCAN\_BLOCKBROKEN**  
libclamav will try to detect broken executables and mark them as Broken.Executable.
- **CL\_SCAN\_HTML**  
This flag enables HTML normalisation (including ScrEnc decryption).
- **CL\_SCAN\_ALGORITHMIC**  
Enable algorithmic detection of viruses.
- **CL\_SCAN\_PHISHING\_BLOCKSSL**  
Phishing module: always block SSL mismatches in URLs.
- **CL\_SCAN\_PHISHING\_BLOCKCLOAK**  
Phishing module: always block cloaked URLs.
- **CL\_SCAN\_STRUCTURED**  
Enable the DLP module which scans for credit card and SSN numbers.
- **CL\_SCAN\_STRUCTURED\_SSN\_NORMAL**  
Search for SSNs formatted as xx-yy-zzzz.
- **CL\_SCAN\_STRUCTURED\_SSN\_STRIPPED**  
Search for SSNs formatted as xxyyzzzz.

- **CL\_SCAN\_PARTIAL\_MESSAGE**  
Scan RFC1341 messages split over many emails. You will need to periodically clean up `$TemporaryDirectory/clamav-partial` directory.
- **CL\_SCAN\_HEURISTIC\_PRECEDENCE**  
Allow heuristic match to take precedence. When enabled, if a heuristic scan (such as `phishingScan`) detects a possible virus/phish it will stop scan immediately. Recommended, saves CPU scan-time. When disabled, virus/phish detected by heuristic scans will be reported only at the end of a scan. If an archive contains both a heuristically detected virus/phishing, and a real malware, the real malware will be reported.
- **CL\_SCAN\_BLOCKMACROS**  
OLE2 containers, which contain VBA macros will be marked infected (`Heuristics.OLE2.ContainsMacros`).

All functions return `CL_CLEAN` when the file seems clean, `CL_VIRUS` when a virus is detected and another value on failure.

```
...
const char *virname;

if((ret = cl_scanfile("/tmp/test.exe", &virname, NULL, engine,
CL_SCAN_STDOPT)) == CL_VIRUS) {
    printf("Virus detected: %s\n", virname);
} else {
    printf("No virus detected.\n");
    if(ret != CL_CLEAN)
        printf("Error: %s\n", cl_strerror(ret));
}
```

### 6.3.9 Memory

Because the engine structure occupies a few megabytes of system memory, you should release it with `cl_engine_free()` if you no longer need to scan files.

### 6.3.10 Forking daemons

If you're using `libclamav` with a forking daemon you should call `srand()` inside a forked child before making any calls to the `libclamav` functions. This will avoid possible collisions with temporary filenames created by other processes of the daemon. This procedure is not required for multi-threaded daemons.

### 6.3.11 clamav-config

Use `clamav-config` to check compilation information for `libclamav`.

```
zolw@localhost:~$ clamav-config --libs
-L/usr/local/lib -lz -lbz2 -lgmp -lpthread
zolw@localhost:~$ clamav-config --cflags
-I/usr/local/include -g -O2
```

### 6.3.12 Example

You will find an example scanner application in the `clamav` source package (`/example`). Provided you have ClamAV already installed, execute the following to compile it:

```
gcc -Wall ex1.c -o ex1 -lclamav
```

## 6.4 CVD format

CVD (ClamAV Virus Database) is a digitally signed tarball containing one or more databases. The header is a 512-bytes long string with colon separated fields:

```
ClamAV-VDB:build time:version:number of signatures:functionality
level required:MD5 checksum:digital signature:builder name:build time (sec)
```

`sigtool --info` displays detailed information on CVD files:

```
zolw@localhost:/usr/local/share/clamav$ sigtool -i daily.cvd
File: daily.cvd
Build time: 10 Mar 2008 10:45 +0000
Version: 6191
Signatures: 59084
Functionality level: 26
Builder: ccordes
MD5: 6e6e29dae36b4b7315932c921e568330
Digital signature: zz9irc9irupR3z7yX6J+OR6XdFPUat4HIM9ERn3kAcOWpcMFxq
Fs4toG5WJsHda0Jj92IUusZ7wAgYjpai1Nr+jFfXHSJxv0dBkS5/XWMntj0T1ctNgqmiF
+RLU6V0VeTl40ej3Aya0cVpd9K4XXevEO2eTTvzWNCAq0ZzWNdjc
Verification OK.
```

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- Stefano Rizzetto
- Roaring Penguin Software Inc. (<http://www.roaringpenguin.com/>)

- Luke Rosenthal
- Jenny Sfstmr (<http://PokerListings.com>)
- School of Engineering, University of Pennsylvania (<http://www.seas.upenn.edu/>)
- Tim Scoff
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- Software Workshop Inc (<http://www.softwareworkshop.com/>)
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- Markus Welsch (<http://www.linux-corner.net/>)
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- Glenn R Williams
- Kelly Williams
- XRoads Networks (<http://xroadsnetworks.com/>)
- Zimbra open-source collaboration suite (<http://www.zimbra.com/>)

## 6.7 Graphics

The ClamAV logo was created by Mia Kalenius and Sergei Pronin from Finndesign (<http://www.finndesign.fi/>).

## 6.8 OpenAntiVirus

Our database includes the virus database (about 7000 signatures) from OpenAntiVirus (<http://OpenAntiVirus.org>).

## 7 Core Team

- aCaB <acab\*clamav.net>, Italy  
Role: virus database maintainer, coder
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Role: co-sysadmin
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Role: virus database maintainer

- Diego d'Ambra <diego\*clamav.net>, Denmark  
Role: virus database maintainer
- Luca Gibelli <luca\*clamav.net>, Italy  
Role: sysadmin, mirror coordinator
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Role: coder
- Arnaud Jacques <arnaud\*clamav.net>, France  
Role: virus database maintainer
- Tomasz Kojm <tkojm\*clamav.net>, Poland  
Role: project leader, coder
- Tomasz Papszun <tomek\*clamav.net>, Poland  
Role: various help
- Sven Strickroth <sven\*clamav.net>, Germany  
Role: virus database maintainer, virus submission management
- Edwin Torok <edwin\*clamav.net>, Romania  
Role: coder
- Trog <trog\*clamav.net>, United Kingdom  
Role: coder