

## NAME

`curl_multi_fdset` - extracts file descriptor information from a multi handle

## SYNOPSIS

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

```
CURLMcode curl_multi_fdset(CURLM *multi_handle,  
                           fd_set *read_fd_set,  
                           fd_set *write_fd_set,  
                           fd_set *exc_fd_set,  
                           int *max_fd);
```

## DESCRIPTION

This function extracts file descriptor information from a given `multi_handle`. libcurl returns its `fd_set` sets. The application can use these to `select()` on, but be sure to `FD_ZERO` them before calling this function as `curl_multi_fdset(3)` only adds its own descriptors it doesn't zero or otherwise remove any other. The `curl_multi_perform(3)` function should be called as soon as one of them are ready to be read from or written to.

If no file descriptors are set by libcurl, `max_fd` will contain -1 when this function returns. Otherwise it will contain the higher descriptor number libcurl set.

You should also be aware that when doing `select()`, you should consider using a rather small (single-digit number of seconds) timeout and call `curl_multi_perform` regularly - even if no activity has been seen on the `fd_sets` - as otherwise libcurl-internal retries and timeouts may not work as you'd think and want.

Starting with libcurl 7.16.0, you should use **`curl_multi_timeout`** to figure out how long to wait for action.

## RETURN VALUE

CURLMcode type, general libcurl multi interface error code. See *libcurl-errors(3)*

## SEE ALSO

**`curl_multi_cleanup(3)`**, **`curl_multi_init(3)`**, **`curl_multi_timeout(3)`**