

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)`