

# H5G\_UNLINK

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# H5G\_UNLINK

Removes the link to an object from a group

*This function is deprecated in favor of the function [H5L\\_DELETE](#).*

## Procedure:

H5G\_UNLINK(loc\_id, name)

## Signature:

```
herr_t H5Gunlink(hid_t loc_id, const char *name )
```

```
SUBROUTINE h5gunlink_f(loc_id, name, hdferr)
  IMPLICIT NONE
  INTEGER(HID_T), INTENT(IN) :: loc_id      ! File or group identifier
  CHARACTER(LEN=*), INTENT(IN) :: name     ! Name of the object to unlink
  INTEGER, INTENT(OUT) :: hdferr           ! Error code
                                           ! 0 on success and -1 on failure
END SUBROUTINE h5gunlink_f
```

## Parameters:

<i>hid_t</i> loc_id	IN: Identifier of the file or group containing the object
<i>const char</i> *name	IN: Name of the object to unlink

**Description:**

H5G\_UNLINK removes the object specified by `name` from the group graph and decrements the link count for the object to which `name` points. This action eliminates any association between `name` and the object to which `name` pointed.

Object headers keep track of how many hard links refer to an object; when the link count reaches zero, the object can be removed from the file. Objects which are open are not removed until all identifiers to the object are closed.

If the link count reaches zero, all file space associated with the object will be released, i.e., identified in memory as freespace. If any object identifier is open for the object, the space will not be released until after the object identifier is closed.

Note that space identified as freespace is available for re-use only as long as the file remains open; once a file has been closed, the HDF5 library loses track of freespace. See "Freespace Management" in the *—HDF5 User's Guide* for further details.

Exercise care in unlinking groups as it is possible to render data in a file inaccessible with H5G\_UNLINK. See The Group Interface in the *—HDF5 User's Guide*.

**Returns:**

Returns a non-negative value if successful; otherwise returns a negative value.

**Example:**

Coming soon!

**History:**

Release	Change
1.8.0	Function deprecated in this release.

--- Last Modified: April 25, 2019 | 11:50 AM