

LS(1)

User Commands

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NAME

ls - list directory contents

SYNOPSIS

ls [OPTION]... [FILE]...

DESCRIPTION

List information about the FILES (the current directory by default). Sort entries alphabetically if none of -cftuvSUX nor --sort is specified.

Mandatory arguments to long options are mandatory for short options too.

-a, --all

do not ignore entries starting with .

-A, --almost-all

do not list implied . and ..

--author

with -l, print the author of each file

-b, --escape

print C-style escapes for nongraphic characters

--block-size=SIZE

scale sizes by SIZE before printing them; e.g., '--block-size=M' prints sizes in units of 1,048,576 bytes; see SIZE format below

-B, --ignore-backups

do not list implied entries ending with ~

-c

with -lt: sort by, and show, ctime (time of last modification of file status information); with -l: show ctime and sort by name; otherwise: sort by ctime, newest first

-C

list entries by columns

--color[=WHEN]

colorize the output; WHEN can be 'never', 'auto', or 'always' (the default); more info below

-d, --directory

list directories themselves, not their contents

-D, --dired
generate output designed for Emacs' dired mode

-f do not sort, enable -aU, disable -ls --color

-F, --classify
append indicator (one of */=>@|) to entries

--file-type
likewise, except do not append '*'

--format=WORD
across -x, commas -m, horizontal -x, long -l, single-column -1,
verbose -l, vertical -C

--full-time
like -l --time-style=full-iso

-g like -l, but do not list owner

--group-directories-first
group directories before files;

can be augmented with a --sort option, but any use of
--sort=none (-U) disables grouping

-G, --no-group
in a long listing, don't print group names

-h, --human-readable
with -l, print sizes in human readable format (e.g., 1K 234M 2G)

--si likewise, but use powers of 1000 not 1024

-H, --dereference-command-line
follow symbolic links listed on the command line

--dereference-command-line-symlink-to-dir
follow each command line symbolic link

that points to a directory

--hide=PATTERN
do not list implied entries matching shell PATTERN (overridden
by -a or -A)

--indicator-style=WORD
append indicator with style WORD to entry names: none (default),
slash (-p), file-type (--file-type), classify (-F)

-i, --inode

print the index number of each file

- I, --ignore=PATTERN**
do not list implied entries matching shell PATTERN
- k, --kibibytes**
default to 1024-byte blocks for disk usage
- l** use a long listing format
- L, --dereference**
when showing file information for a symbolic link, show information for the file the link references rather than for the link itself
- m** fill width with a comma separated list of entries
- n, --numeric-uid-gid**
like -l, but list numeric user and group IDs
- N, --literal**
print raw entry names (don't treat e.g. control characters specially)
- o** like -l, but do not list group information
- p, --indicator-style=slash**
append / indicator to directories
- q, --hide-control-chars**
print ? instead of nongraphic characters
- show-control-chars**
show nongraphic characters as-is (the default, unless program is 'ls' and output is a terminal)
- Q, --quote-name**
enclose entry names in double quotes
- quoting-style=WORD**
use quoting style WORD for entry names: literal, locale, shell, shell-always, c, escape
- r, --reverse**
reverse order while sorting
- R, --recursive**
list subdirectories recursively
- s, --size**
print the allocated size of each file, in blocks

-S sort by file size

--sort=WORD

sort by WORD instead of name: none (-U), size (-S), time (-t), version (-v), extension (-X)

--time=WORD

with -l, show time as WORD instead of default modification time: atime or access or use (-u) ctime or status (-c); also use specified time as sort key if --sort=time

--time-style=STYLE

with -l, show times using style STYLE: full-iso, long-iso, iso, locale, or +FORMAT; FORMAT is interpreted like in 'date'; if FORMAT is FORMAT1<newline>FORMAT2, then FORMAT1 applies to non-recent files and FORMAT2 to recent files; if STYLE is prefixed with 'posix-', STYLE takes effect only outside the POSIX locale

-t sort by modification time, newest first

-T, --tabsize=COLS

assume tab stops at each COLS instead of 8

-u with -lt: sort by, and show, access time; with -l: show access time and sort by name; otherwise: sort by access time

-U do not sort; list entries in directory order

-v natural sort of (version) numbers within text

-w, --width=COLS

assume screen width instead of current value

-x list entries by lines instead of by columns

-X sort alphabetically by entry extension

-1 list one file per line

SELinux options:

--lcontext

Display security context. Enable -l. Lines will probably be too wide for most displays.

-Z, --context

Display security context so it fits on most displays. Displays only mode, user, group, security context and file name.

--scontext

Display only security context and file name.

--help display this help and exit

--version

output version information and exit

SIZE is an integer and optional unit (example: 10M is 10*1024*1024). Units are K, M, G, T, P, E, Z, Y (powers of 1024) or KB, MB, ... (powers of 1000).

Using color to distinguish file types is disabled both by default and with `--color=never`. With `--color=auto`, `ls` emits color codes only when standard output is connected to a terminal. The `LS_COLORS` environment variable can change the settings. Use the `dircolors` command to set it.

Exit status:

- 0 if OK,
- 1 if minor problems (e.g., cannot access subdirectory),
- 2 if serious trouble (e.g., cannot access command-line argument).

GNU coreutils online help: <<http://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/>>
Report `ls` translation bugs to <<http://translationproject.org/team/>>

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SEE ALSO

The full documentation for `ls` is maintained as a Texinfo manual. If the `info` and `ls` programs are properly installed at your site, the command

`info coreutils 'ls invocation'`

should give you access to the complete manual.