

**NAME**

msggrep – pattern matching on message catalog

**SYNOPSIS**

**msggrep** [*OPTION*] [*INPUTFILE*]

**DESCRIPTION**

Extracts all messages of a translation catalog that match a given pattern or belong to some given source files.

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

**Input file location:**

**INPUTFILE**

input PO file

**-D, --directory=DIRECTORY**

add DIRECTORY to list for input files search

If no input file is given or if it is -, standard input is read.

**Output file location:**

**-o, --output-file=FILE**

write output to specified file

The results are written to standard output if no output file is specified or if it is -.

**Message selection:**

**[-N SOURCEFILE]... [-M DOMAINNAME]... [-J MSGCTXT-PATTERN] [-K MSGID-PATTERN] [-T MSGSTR-PATTERN] [-C COMMENT-PATTERN] [-X EXTRACTED-COMMENT-PATTERN]**

A message is selected if it comes from one of the specified source files, or if it comes from one of the specified domains, or if **-J** is given and its context (msgctxt) matches MSGCTXT-PATTERN, or if **-K** is given and its key (msgid or msgid\_plural) matches MSGID-PATTERN, or if **-T** is given and its translation (msgstr) matches MSGSTR-PATTERN, or if **-C** is given and the translator's comment matches COMMENT-PATTERN, or if **-X** is given and the extracted comment matches EXTRACTED-COMMENT-PATTERN.

When more than one selection criterion is specified, the set of selected messages is the union of the selected messages of each criterion.

MSGCTXT-PATTERN or MSGID-PATTERN or MSGSTR-PATTERN or COMMENT-PATTERN or EXTRACTED-COMMENT-PATTERN syntax:

**[-E | -F] [-e PATTERN | -f FILE]...**

PATTERNs are basic regular expressions by default, or extended regular expressions if **-E** is given, or fixed strings if **-F** is given.

**-N, --location=SOURCEFILE**

select messages extracted from SOURCEFILE

**-M, --domain=DOMAINNAME**

select messages belonging to domain DOMAINNAME

**-J, --msgctxt**

start of patterns for the msgctxt

**-K, --msgid**

start of patterns for the msgid

**-T, --msgstr**

start of patterns for the msgstr

- C, --comment**  
start of patterns for the translator's comment
- X, --extracted-comment**  
start of patterns for the extracted comment
- E, --extended-regexp**  
PATTERN is an extended regular expression
- F, --fixed-strings**  
PATTERN is a set of newline-separated strings
- e, --regexp=PATTERN**  
use PATTERN as a regular expression
- f, --file=FILE**  
obtain PATTERN from FILE
- i, --ignore-case**  
ignore case distinctions
- v, --invert-match**  
output only the messages that do not match any selection criterion

#### Input file syntax:

- P, --properties-input**  
input file is in Java .properties syntax
- stringtable-input**  
input file is in NeXTstep/GNUstep .strings syntax

#### Output details:

- color**  
use colors and other text attributes always
- color=WHEN**  
use colors and other text attributes if WHEN. WHEN may be 'always', 'never', 'auto', or 'html'.
- style=STYLEFILE**  
specify CSS style rule file for **--color**
- no-escape**  
do not use C escapes in output (default)
- escape**  
use C escapes in output, no extended chars
- force-po**  
write PO file even if empty
- indent**  
indented output style
- no-location**  
suppress '#: filename:line' lines
- n, --add-location**  
preserve '#: filename:line' lines (default)
- strict**  
strict Uniform output style
- p, --properties-output**  
write out a Java .properties file

**--stringtable-output**

write out a NeXTstep/GNUstep .strings file

**-w, --width=NUMBER**

set output page width

**--no-wrap**

do not break long message lines, longer than the output page width, into several lines

**--sort-output**

generate sorted output

**--sort-by-file**

sort output by file location

**Informative output:****-h, --help**

display this help and exit

**-V, --version**

output version information and exit

**AUTHOR**

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**REPORTING BUGS**

Report bugs to <bug-gnu-gettext@gnu.org>.

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**SEE ALSO**

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

**info msggrep**

should give you access to the complete manual.