

**NAME**

GNU sdiff – side-by-side merge of file differences

**SYNOPSIS**

**sdiff** [*OPTION*]... *FILE1 FILE2*

**DESCRIPTION**

Side-by-side merge of differences between *FILE1* and *FILE2*.

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

- o, --output=FILE**  
operate interactively, sending output to *FILE*
- i, --ignore-case**  
consider upper- and lower-case to be the same
- E, --ignore-tab-expansion**  
ignore changes due to tab expansion
- Z, --ignore-trailing-space**  
ignore white space at line end
- b, --ignore-space-change**  
ignore changes in the amount of white space
- W, --ignore-all-space**  
ignore all white space
- B, --ignore-blank-lines**  
ignore changes whose lines are all blank
- I, --ignore-matching-lines=RE**  
ignore changes all whose lines match *RE*
- strip-trailing-cr**  
strip trailing carriage return on input
- a, --text**  
treat all files as text
- w, --width=NUM**  
output at most *NUM* (default 130) print columns
- l, --left-column**  
output only the left column of common lines
- s, --suppress-common-lines**  
do not output common lines
- t, --expand-tabs**  
expand tabs to spaces in output
- tabsize=NUM**  
tab stops at every *NUM* (default 8) print columns
- d, --minimal**  
try hard to find a smaller set of changes
- H, --speed-large-files**  
assume large files, many scattered small changes
- diff-program=PROGRAM**  
use *PROGRAM* to compare files
- help** display this help and exit

**-v, --version**

output version information and exit

If a FILE is '-', read standard input. Exit status is 0 if inputs are the same, 1 if different, 2 if trouble.

## AUTHOR

Written by Thomas Lord.

## REPORTING BUGS

Report bugs to: [bug-diffutils@gnu.org](mailto:bug-diffutils@gnu.org)

GNU diffutils home page: [<https://www.gnu.org/software/diffutils/>](https://www.gnu.org/software/diffutils/)

General help using GNU software: [<https://www.gnu.org/gethelp/>](https://www.gnu.org/gethelp/)

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## SEE ALSO

[cmp\(1\)](#), [diff\(1\)](#), [diff3\(1\)](#)

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

**info GNU**

should give you access to the complete manual.