

**NAME**

xdelta3 – VCDIFF (RFC 3284) binary diff tool

**SYNOPSIS**

**xdelta3** [*command*] [*options*] [*input*] [*output*]

**DESCRIPTION**

**xdelta3** is a binary diff tool that uses the VCDIFF (RFC 3284) format and compression.

**COMMANDS**

**config** prints xdelta3 configuration  
**decode** decompress the input, also set by -d  
**encode** compress the input, also set by -e (default)  
**test** run the builtin tests  
**printdelta**  
print information about the entire delta  
**printhdr**  
print information about the first window  
**printhdrs**  
print information about all windows  
**recode** encode with new application/secondary settings

**OPTIONS**

standard options:

**-0 .. -9** compression level  
**-c** use stdout  
**-d** decompress  
**-e** compress  
**-f** force overwrite  
**-h** show help  
**-q** be quiet  
**-v** be verbose (max 2)  
**-V** show version

memory options:

**-B** bytes source window size  
**-W** bytes input window size  
**-P** size compression duplicates window  
**-I** size instruction buffer size (0 = unlimited)

compression options:

**-s** source source file to copy from (if any)  
**-S** [*djw*]*[fgk]**[lzma]**[none]*  
enable/disable secondary compression

- N**     disable small string-matching compression
- D**     disable external decompression (encode/decode)
- R**     disable external recompression (decode)
- n**     disable checksum (encode/decode)
- C**     soft config (encode, undocumented)
- A** [*apphead*]  
      disable/provide application header (encode)
- J**     disable output (check/compute only)
- T**     use alternate code table (test)

## NOTES

The **XDELTA** environment variable may contain extra args:

```
XDELTA="-s source-x.y.tar.gz" \  
tar --use-compress-program=xdelta3 -cf \  
target-x.z.tar.gz.vcdiff target-x.y/
```

## EXAMPLES

Compress the differences between **SOURCE** and **TARGET**, yielding **OUT**, using "djw" secondary compression:

```
xdelta3 -S djw -s SOURCE TARGET OUT
```

Do the same, using standard input and output:

```
xdelta3 -S djw -s SOURCE < TARGET > OUT
```

To decompress **OUT**, using **SOURCE**, yielding **TARGET**:

```
xdelta3 -d -s SOURCE OUT TARGET
```

## AUTHOR

xdelta3 was written by Josh MacDonald <josh.macdonald@gmail.com>.

This manual page was written by Leo 'costela' Antunes <costela@debian.org> for the Debian project (but may be used by others).