

**NAME**

locale – get locale-specific information

**SYNOPSIS**

**locale** [*option*]  
**locale** [*option*] **-a**  
**locale** [*option*] **-m**  
**locale** [*option*] *name...*

**DESCRIPTION**

The **locale** command displays information about the current locale, or all locales, on standard output.

When invoked without arguments, **locale** displays the current locale settings for each locale category (see **locale(5)**), based on the settings of the environment variables that control the locale (see **locale(7)**). Values for variables set in the environment are printed without double quotes, implied values are printed with double quotes.

If either the **-a** or the **-m** option (or one of their long-format equivalents) is specified, the behavior is as follows:

**-a, --all-locales**

Display a list of all available locales. The **-v** option causes the **LC\_IDENTIFICATION** metadata about each locale to be included in the output.

**-m, --charmaps**

Display the available charmaps (character set description files). To display the current character set for the locale, use **locale -c charmap**.

The **locale** command can also be provided with one or more arguments, which are the names of locale keywords (for example, *date\_fmt*, *ctype-class-names*, *yesexpr*, or *decimal\_point*) or locale categories (for example, **LC\_CTYPE** or **LC\_TIME**). For each argument, the following is displayed:

- \* For a locale keyword, the value of that keyword to be displayed.
- \* For a locale category, the values of all keywords in that category are displayed.

When arguments are supplied, the following options are meaningful:

**-c, --category-name**

For a category name argument, write the name of the locale category on a separate line preceding the list of keyword values for that category.

For a keyword name argument, write the name of the locale category for this keyword on a separate line preceding the keyword value.

This option improves readability when multiple name arguments are specified. It can be combined with the **-k** option.

**-k, --keyword-name**

For each keyword whose value is being displayed, include also the name of that keyword, so that the output has the format:

*keyword*="value"

The **locale** command also knows about the following options:

**-v, --verbose**

Display additional information for some command-line option and argument combinations.

**-, --help**

Display a summary of command-line options and arguments and exit.

**--usage**

Display a short usage message and exit.

**-V, --version**

Display the program version and exit.

**FILES**

*/usr/lib/locale/locale-archive*

Usual default locale archive location.

*/usr/share/i18n/locales*

Usual default path for locale definition files.

**CONFORMING TO**

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008.

**EXAMPLE**

```
$ locale
LANG=en_US.UTF-8
LC_CTYPE="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_NUMERIC="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_TIME="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_COLLATE="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_MONETARY="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_MESSAGES="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_PAPER="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_NAME="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_ADDRESS="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_TELEPHONE="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_MEASUREMENT="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_IDENTIFICATION="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_ALL=

$ locale date_fmt
%a %b %e %H:%M:%S %Z %Y

$ locale -k date_fmt
date_fmt="%a %b %e %H:%M:%S %Z %Y"

$ locale -ck date_fmt
LC_TIME
date_fmt="%a %b %e %H:%M:%S %Z %Y"

$ locale LC_TELEPHONE
+%c (%a) %l
(%a) %l
11
1
UTF-8

$ locale -k LC_TELEPHONE
tel_int_fmt="+%c (%a) %l"
tel_dom_fmt("(%a) %l"
int_select="11"
int_prefix="1"
telephone-codeset="UTF-8"
```

The following example compiles a custom locale from the */wrk* directory with the **localedef**(1) utility under the *\$HOME/locale* directory, then tests the result with the **date**(1) command, and then sets the environment variables **LOCPATH** and **LANG** in the shell profile file so that the custom locale will be used in the

subsequent user sessions:

```
$ mkdir -p $HOME/.locale
$ I18NPATH=./wrk/ localedef -f UTF-8 -i fi_SE $HOME/.locale/fi_SE.UTF-8
$ LOCPATH=$HOME/.locale LC_ALL=fi_SE.UTF-8 date
$ echo "export LOCPATH=\$HOME/.locale" >> $HOME/.bashrc
$ echo "export LANG=fi_SE.UTF-8" >> $HOME/.bashrc
```

## SEE ALSO

`localedef(1)`, `charmap(5)`, `locale(5)`, `locale(7)`

## COLOPHON

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