

**NAME**

**mshgen** – create English message catalog

**SYNOPSIS**

**mshgen** [*OPTION*] *INPUTFILE*

**DESCRIPTION**

Creates an English translation catalog. The input file is the last created English PO file, or a PO Template file (generally created by xgettext). Untranslated entries are assigned a translation that is identical to the msgid.

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

**Input file location:**

*INPUTFILE*

input PO or POT file

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

add *DIRECTORY* to list for input files search

If input file 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 -.

**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:**

**--lang=***CATALOGNAME*

set 'Language' field in the header entry

**--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**

**-e, --no-escape**

do not use C escapes in output (default)

**-E, --escape**

use C escapes in output, no extended chars

**--force-po**

write PO file even if empty

**-i, --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
  - s, --sort-output**  
generate sorted output
  - F, --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

Written by Bruno Haible.

## REPORTING BUGS

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

## COPYRIGHT

Copyright © 2001-2016 Free Software Foundation, Inc. License GPLv3+: GNU GPL version 3 or later  
<<http://gnu.org/licenses/gpl.html>>

This is free software: you are free to change and redistribute it. There is NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by law.

## SEE ALSO

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

**info msgen**

should give you access to the complete manual.