

NAME

xgettext – extract gettext strings from source

SYNOPSIS

xgettext [*OPTION*] [*INPUTFILE*]...

DESCRIPTION

Extract translatable strings from given input files.

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

Input file location:

INPUTFILE ...

input files

-f, --files-from=FILE

get list of input files from FILE

-D, --directory=DIRECTORY

add DIRECTORY to list for input files search

If input file is -, standard input is read.

Output file location:

-d, --default-domain=NAME

use NAME.po for output (instead of messages.po)

-o, --output=FILE

write output to specified file

-p, --output-dir=DIR

output files will be placed in directory DIR

If output file is -, output is written to standard output.

Choice of input file language:

-L, --language=NAME

recognise the specified language (C, C++, ObjectiveC, PO, Shell, Python, Lisp, EmacsLisp, librep, Scheme, Smalltalk, Java, JavaProperties, C#, awk, YCP, Tcl, Perl, PHP, GCC-source, NXStringTable, RST, Glade, Lua, JavaScript, Vala, Desktop)

-C, --c++

shorthand for **--language=C++**

By default the language is guessed depending on the input file name extension.

Input file interpretation:

--from-code=NAME

encoding of input files (except for Python, Tcl, Glade)

By default the input files are assumed to be in ASCII.

Operation mode:

-j, --join-existing

join messages with existing file

-x, --exclude-file=FILE.po

entries from FILE.po are not extracted

-cTAG, --add-comments=TAG

place comment blocks starting with TAG and preceding keyword lines in output file

-c, --add-comments

place all comment blocks preceding keyword lines in output file

- check=NAME**
perform syntax check on messages (ellipsis-unicode, space-ellipsis,
quote-unicode, bullet-unicode)
- sentence-end=TYPE**
type describing the end of sentence (single-space, which is the default,
or double-space)

Language specific options:

- a, --extract-all**
extract all strings (only languages C, C++, ObjectiveC, Shell, Python, Lisp, EmacsLisp, librep,
Scheme, Java, C#, awk, Tcl, Perl, PHP, GCC-source, Glade, Lua, JavaScript, Vala)
- kWORD, --keyword=WORD**
look for WORD as an additional keyword
- k, --keyword**
do not to use default keywords (only languages C, C++, ObjectiveC, Shell, Python, Lisp, EmacsLisp, librep, Scheme, Java, C#, awk, Tcl, Perl, PHP, GCC-source, Glade, Lua, JavaScript, Vala, Desktop)
- flag=WORD:ARG:FLAG**
additional flag for strings inside the argument number ARG of keyword WORD

(only languages C, C++, ObjectiveC, Shell, Python, Lisp, EmacsLisp, librep, Scheme, Java, C#, awk, YCP, Tcl, Perl, PHP, GCC-source, Lua, JavaScript, Vala)
- T, --trigraphs**
understand ANSI C trigraphs for input (only languages C, C++, ObjectiveC)
- its=FILE**
apply ITS rules from FILE (only XML based languages)
- qt** recognize Qt format strings (only language C++)
- kde** recognize KDE 4 format strings (only language C++)
- boost**
recognize Boost format strings (only language C++)
- debug**
more detailed formatstring recognition result

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**
- 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**
write the .po file using indented style

- no-location**
do not write '#: filename:line' lines
- n, --add-location**
generate '#: filename:line' lines (default)
- strict**
write out strict Uniform conforming .po file
- properties-output**
write out a Java .properties file
- stringtable-output**
write out a NeXTstep/GNUstep .strings file
- itstool**
write out itstool comments
- 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
- omit-header**
don't write header with 'msgid ""' entry
- copyright-holder=STRING**
set copyright holder in output
- foreign-user**
omit FSF copyright in output for foreign user
- package-name=PACKAGE**
set package name in output
- package-version=VERSION**
set package version in output
- msgid-bugs-address=EMAIL@ADDRESS**
set report address for msgid bugs
- m[STRING], --msgstr-prefix[=STRING]**
use STRING or "" as prefix for msgstr values
- M[STRING], --msgstr-suffix[=STRING]**
use STRING or "" as suffix for msgstr values

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 **xgettext** is maintained as a Texinfo manual. If the **info** and **xgettext** programs are properly installed at your site, the command

info xgettext

should give you access to the complete manual.