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NAME

openssl - OpenSSL command line tool

SYNOPSIS

openssl *command* [*command_opts*] [*command_args*]

openssl [**list-standard-commands** | **list-message-digest-commands** | **list-cipher-commands** | **list-cipher-algorithms** | **list-message-digest-algorithms** | **list-public-key-algorithms**]

openssl no-XXX [*arbitrary options*]

DESCRIPTION

OpenSSL is a cryptography toolkit implementing the Secure Sockets Layer (SSL v2/v3) and Transport Layer Security (TLS v1) network protocols and related cryptography standards required by them.

The **openssl** program is a command line tool for using the various cryptography functions of OpenSSL's **crypto** library from the shell. It can be used for

- Creation and management of private keys, public keys and parameters
- Public key cryptographic operations
- Creation of X.509 certificates, CSRs and CRLs
- Calculation of Message Digests
- Encryption and Decryption with Ciphers
- SSL/TLS Client and Server Tests
- Handling of S/MIME signed or encrypted mail
- Time Stamp requests, generation and verification

COMMAND SUMMARY

The **openssl** program provides a rich variety of commands (*command* in the SYNOPSIS above), each of which often has a wealth of options and arguments (*command_opts* and *command_args* in the SYNOPSIS).

The pseudo-commands **list-standard-commands**, **list-message-digest-commands**, and **list-cipher-commands** output a list (one entry per line) of the names of all standard commands, message digest commands, or cipher commands, respectively, that are available in the present **openssl** utility.

The pseudo-commands **list-cipher-algorithms** and **list-message-digest-algorithms** list all cipher and message digest names, one entry per line. Aliases are listed as:

from => to

The pseudo-command **list-public-key-algorithms** lists all supported public key algorithms.

The pseudo-command **no-XXX** tests whether a command of the specified name is available. If no command named XXX exists, it returns 0 (success) and prints **no-XXX**; otherwise it returns 1 and prints XXX. In both cases, the output goes to **stdout** and nothing is printed to **stderr**. Additional command line arguments are always ignored. Since for each cipher there is a command of the same name, this provides an easy way for shell scripts to test for the availability of ciphers in the **openssl** program. (**no-XXX** is not able to detect pseudo-commands such as **quit**, **list-...-commands**, or **no-XXX** itself.)

STANDARD COMMANDS

[asn1parse](#)

Parse an ASN.1 sequence.

[ca](#)

Certificate Authority (CA) Management.

[ciphers](#)

Cipher Suite Description Determination.

[cms](#)

CMS (Cryptographic Message Syntax) utility

[cr1](#)

Certificate Revocation List (CRL) Management.

[cr12pkcs7](#)

CRL to PKCS#7 Conversion.

[dgst](#)

Message Digest Calculation.

dh

Diffie-Hellman Parameter Management. Obsoleted by [dhparam](#).

[dhparam](#)

Generation and Management of Diffie-Hellman Parameters. Superseded by [genpkey](#) and [pkeyparam](#)

[dsa](#)

DSA Data Management.

[dsaparam](#)

DSA Parameter Generation and Management. Superseded by [genpkey](#) and [pkeyparam](#)

[ec](#)

EC (Elliptic curve) key processing

[ecparam](#)

EC parameter manipulation and generation

[enc](#)

Encoding with Ciphers.

[engine](#)

Engine (loadable module) information and manipulation.

[errstr](#)

Error Number to Error String Conversion.

gendh

Generation of Diffie-Hellman Parameters. Obsoleted by [dhparam](#).

[gendsa](#)

Generation of DSA Private Key from Parameters. Superseded by [genpkey](#) and [pkey](#)

[genpkey](#)

Generation of Private Key or Parameters.

[genrsa](#)

Generation of RSA Private Key. Superseded by [genpkey](#).

[nseq](#)

Create or examine a netscape certificate sequence

[ocsp](#)

Online Certificate Status Protocol utility.

[passwd](#)

Generation of hashed passwords.

[pkcs12](#)

PKCS#12 Data Management.

[pkcs7](#)

PKCS#7 Data Management.

[pkey](#)

Public and private key management.

[pkeyparam](#)

Public key algorithm parameter management.

[pkeyutil](#)

Public key algorithm cryptographic operation utility.

[rand](#)

Generate pseudo-random bytes.

[req](#)

PKCS#10 X.509 Certificate Signing Request (CSR) Management.

[rsa](#)

RSA key management.

[rsautil](#)

RSA utility for signing, verification, encryption, and decryption. Superseded by [pkeyutil](#)

[s_client](#)

This implements a generic SSL/TLS client which can establish a transparent connection to a remote server speaking SSL/TLS. It's intended for testing purposes only and provides only rudimentary interface functionality but internally uses mostly all functionality of the OpenSSL **ssl** library.

[s_server](#)

This implements a generic SSL/TLS server which accepts connections from remote clients speaking SSL/TLS. It's intended for testing purposes only and provides only rudimentary interface functionality but internally uses mostly all functionality of the OpenSSL **ssl** library. It provides both an own command line oriented protocol for testing SSL functions and a simple HTTP response facility to emulate an SSL/TLS-aware webserver.

[s_time](#)

SSL Connection Timer.

[sess_id](#)

SSL Session Data Management.

[smime](#)

S/MIME mail processing.

[speed](#)

Algorithm Speed Measurement.

[spkac](#)

SPKAC printing and generating utility

[ts](#)

Time Stamping Authority tool (client/server)

[verify](#)

X.509 Certificate Verification.

[version](#)

OpenSSL Version Information.

[x509](#)

X.509 Certificate Data Management.

MESSAGE DIGEST COMMANDS

md2

MD2 Digest

md5

MD5 Digest

mdc2

MDC2 Digest

rmd160

RMD-160 Digest

sha

SHA Digest

sha1

SHA-1 Digest

sha224

SHA-224 Digest

sha256

SHA-256 Digest

sha384

SHA-384 Digest

sha512

SHA-512 Digest

ENCODING AND CIPHER COMMANDS

base64

Base64 Encoding

bf bf-cbc bf-cfb bf-ecb bf-ofb

Blowfish Cipher

cast cast-cbc

CAST Cipher

cast5-cbc cast5-cfb cast5-ecb cast5-ofb

CAST5 Cipher

des des-cbc des-cfb des-ecb des-ede des-ede-cbc des-ede-cfb des-ede-ofb des-ofb

DES Cipher

des3 desx des-ede3 des-ede3-cbc des-ede3-cfb des-ede3-ofb

Triple-DES Cipher

idea idea-cbc idea-cfb idea-ecb idea-ofb

IDEA Cipher

rc2 rc2-cbc rc2-cfb rc2-ecb rc2-ofb

RC2 Cipher

rc4

RC4 Cipher

rc5 rc5-cbc rc5-cfb rc5-ecb rc5-ofb

RC5 Cipher

PASS PHRASE ARGUMENTS

Several commands accept password arguments, typically using **-passin** and **-passout** for input and output passwords respectively. These allow the password to be obtained from a variety of sources. Both of these options take a single argument whose format is described below. If no password argument is given and a password is required then the user is prompted to enter one: this will typically be read from the current terminal with echoing turned off.

pass:password

the actual password is **password**. Since the password is visible to utilities (like 'ps' under Unix) this form should only be used where security is not important.

env:var

obtain the password from the environment variable **var**. Since the environment of other processes is visible on certain platforms (e.g. ps under certain Unix OSes) this option should be used with caution.

file:pathname

the first line of **pathname** is the password. If the same **pathname** argument is supplied to **-passin** and **-passout** arguments then the first line will be used for the input password and the next line for the output password. **pathname** need not refer to a regular file: it could for example refer to a device or named pipe.

fd:number

read the password from the file descriptor **number**. This can be used to send the data via a pipe for example.

stdin

read the password from standard input.

SEE ALSO

[asn1parse](#), [ca](#), [config](#), [crl](#), [crl2pkcs7](#), [dgst](#), [dhparam](#), [dsa](#), [dsaparam](#), [enc](#), [gendsa](#), [genpkey](#), [genrsa](#), [nseq](#), [openssl](#), [passwd](#), [pkcs12](#), [pkcs7](#), [pkcs8](#), [rand](#), [req](#)

HISTORY

The `openssl(1)` document appeared in OpenSSL 0.9.2. The **list-XXX-commands** pseudo-commands were added in OpenSSL 0.9.3; The **list-XXX-algorithms** pseudo-commands were added in OpenSSL 1.0.0; the **no-XXX** pseudo-commands were added in OpenSSL 0.9.5a. For notes on the availability of other commands, see their individual manual pages.