

LS(1) User Commands LS(1)

NAME ls - list directory contents

SYNOPSIS ls [OPTION]... [FILE]...

DESCRIPTION List information about the FILES (the current directory by default). Sort entries alphabetically if none of -cftuvSUX nor --sort is specified.

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

-a, --all do not ignore entries starting with .

-A, --almost-all do not list implied . and ..

--author with -l, print the author of each file

-b, --escape print C-style escapes for nongraphic characters

--block-size=SIZE with -l, scale sizes by SIZE when printing them; e.g., '--block-size=M'; see SIZE format below

-B, --ignore-backups do not list implied entries ending with

-c with -lt : sort by, and show, ctime (time of last modification of file status information); with -l : show ctime and sort by name; otherwise : sort by ctime, newest first

-C list entries by columns

--color[=WHEN] colorize the output; WHEN can be 'always' (default if omitted), 'auto', or 'never'; more info below

-d, --directory list directories themselves, not their contents

-D, --dired generate output designed for Emacs' dired mode

-f do not sort, enable -aU, disable -ls --color

-F, --classify append indicator (one of */=ı@—) to entries

--file-type likewise, except do not append '*'

--format=WORD across -x, commas -m, horizontal -x, long -l, single-column -1, verbose -l, vertical -C

--full-time like -l --time-style=full-iso

-g like -l, but do not list owner

--group-directories-first group directories before files;

can be augmented with a --sort option, but any use of --sort=none (-U) disables grouping

-G, --no-group in a long listing, don't print group names

-h, --human-readable with -l and -s, print sizes like 1K 234M 2G etc.

-si likewise, but use powers of 1000 not 1024

-H, --dereference-command-line follow symbolic links listed on the command line

--dereference-command-line-symlink-to-dir follow each command line symbolic link

that points to a directory

--hide=PATTERN do not list implied entries matching shell PATTERN (overridden by -a or -A)

--hyperlink[=WHEN] hyperlink file names; WHEN can be 'always' (default if omitted), 'auto', or 'never'

--indicator-style=WORD append indicator with style WORD to entry names : none (default), slash (-p), file-type (--file-type), classify (-F)

-i, --inode print the index number of each file

- I, -ignore=PATTERN do not list implied entries matching shell PATTERN
- k, -kibibytes default to 1024-byte blocks for disk usage; used only with -s and per directory totals
- l use a long listing format
- L, -dereference when showing file information for a symbolic link, show information for the file the link references rather than for the link itself
- m fill width with a comma separated list of entries
- n, -numeric-uid-gid like -l, but list numeric user and group IDs
- N, -literal print entry names without quoting
- o like -l, but do not list group information
- p, -indicator-style=slash append / indicator to directories
- q, -hide-control-chars print ? instead of nongraphic characters
- show-control-chars show nongraphic characters as-is (the default, unless program is 'ls' and output is a terminal)
- Q, -quote-name enclose entry names in double quotes
- quoting-style=WORD use quoting style WORD for entry names : literal, locale, shell, shell-always, shell-escape, shell-escape-always, c, escape (overrides QUOTING_STYLEenvironmentvariable)
- r, -reverse reverse order while sorting
- R, -recursive list subdirectories recursively
- s, -size print the allocated size of each file, in blocks
- S sort by file size, largest first
- sort=WORD sort by WORD instead of name : none (-U), size (-S), time (-t), version (-v), extension (-X)
- time=WORD change the default of using modification times; access time (-u) : atime, access, use; change time (-c) : ctime, status; birth time : birth, creation;
- with -l, WORD determines which time to show; with -sort=time, sort by WORD (newest first)
- time-style=TIME_STYLEtime/dateformatwith-l; seeTIME_STYLEbelow
- t sort by time, newest first; see -time
- T, -tabsize=COLS assume tab stops at each COLS instead of 8
- u with -lt : sort by, and show, access time; with -l : show access time and sort by name; otherwise : sort by access time, newest first
- U do not sort; list entries in directory order
- v natural sort of (version) numbers within text
- w, -width=COLS set output width to COLS. 0 means no limit
- x list entries by lines instead of by columns
- X sort alphabetically by entry extension
- Z, -context print any security context of each file
- 1 list one file per line. Avoid " with -q or -b
- help display this help and exit
- version output version information and exit

The SIZE argument is an integer and optional unit (example : 10K is 10*1024). Units are K,M,G,T,P,E,Z,Y (powers of 1024) or KB,MB,... (powers of 1000). Binary prefixes can be used, too : KiB=K, MiB=M, and so on.

The `TIME_STYLE` argument can be `full-iso`, `long-iso`, `iso`, `locale`, or `+FORMAT`. `FORMAT` is interpreted as `MAT1 < newline > FORMAT2`, then `FORMAT1` applies to non-recent files and `FORMAT2` to recent files. `TIME_STYLE` prefixed with `'posix-'` takes effect only outside the `POSIX` locale. Also, it can be set to the default style to use.

Using color to distinguish file types is disabled both by default and with `-color=never`. With `-color=auto`, `ls` emits color codes only when standard output is connected to a terminal. The `LS_COLORS` environment variable can change these settings. Use the `dir_colors` script to set the default.

Exit status : 0 if OK,

1 if minor problems (e.g., cannot access subdirectory),

2 if serious trouble (e.g., cannot access command-line argument).

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SEE ALSO Full documentation <https://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/ls> or available locally via : `info '(coreutils) ls invocation'`

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