**Man Pages**

**9-Jan-2017**

man commandName

Manual pages document every aspect of UNIX commands.

* Each man page documents a command or a specific topic.
* The manual pages are organized into sections:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Section** | **Description** |
| 1 | General [commands](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Command_(computing)) |
| 2 | System calls |
| 3 | Library functions, covering in particular the C standard library |
| 4 | Special files (usually devices, those found in /dev) and [drivers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Device_driver) |
| 5 | File formats and conventions |
| 6 | Games and screensavers |
| 7 | Miscellanea |
| 8 | System administration commands and daemons |

The default pager for reading a man page is less.

* To exit the man page:  q
* Scroll up/down by one page: b / space Start of page:  Home End:  End
* Scroll up/down by half a page: u / d
* Searching forwards/backwards: / / ?, then type a regular expression,
  + then hit n to go to the next match or
  + shift+N to go to the previous match.
  + If the page is covered with uninteresting matches, hit space to go to the next page.
* Add an @ before the regular expression to search from the start of the man page.

**Options:**

man –k subject Get all of the commands on a particular subject

man section commandName Only retrieve man pages from a particular section

man -a commandName Retrieve all relevant man pages from all sections

whatis commandName Prints a list of relevant man pages.

**man page organization:**

NAME; SYNOPSIS; DESCRIPTION; OPTIONS; EXAMPLES; FILES; **SEE ALSO**; BUGS

**man pages on-line:**

<https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/>

**Info Pages**

**9-Jan-2017**

info commandName

Information pages document every aspect of UNIX commands in a hyperlinked style organization.

Information is organized as "nodes". Each node is a sub-set of information about its "parent" node.

Navigation:

Space-bar page down

Page-up, page-down keys move a page at a time

Arrow-keys move one line at a time

Enter-key Put your cursor over a line that starts with an asterisk and hit the enter-key to go to a sub-page.