

NAME

locale – get locale-specific information

SYNOPSIS

locale [*option*]
locale [*option*] **-a**
locale [*option*] **-m**
locale [*option*] *name...*

DESCRIPTION

The **locale** command displays information about the current locale, or all locales, on standard output.

When invoked without arguments, **locale** displays the current locale settings for each locale category (see **locale(5)**), based on the settings of the environment variables that control the locale (see **locale(7)**).

If either the **-a** or the **-m** option (or one of their long-format equivalents) is specified, the behavior is as follows:

-a, --all-locales

Display a list of all available locales. The **-v** option causes the **LC_IDENTIFICATION** metadata about each locale to be included in the output.

-m, --charmaps

Display the available charmaps (character set description files).

The *locale* command can also be provided with one or more arguments, which are the names of locale keywords (for example, *date_fmt*, *ctype-class-names*, *yesexpr*, or *decimal_point*) or locale categories (for example, **LC_CTYPE** or **LC_TIME**). For each argument, the following is displayed:

- * For a locale keyword, the value of that keyword to be displayed.
- * For a locale category, the values of all keywords in that category are displayed.

When arguments are supplied, the following options are meaningful:

-c, --category-name

For a category name argument, write the name of the locale category on a separate line preceding the list of keyword values for that category.

For a keyword name argument, write the name of the locale category for this keyword on a separate line preceding the keyword value.

This option improves readability when multiple name arguments are specified. It can be combined with the **-k** option.

-k, --keyword-name

For each keyword whose value is being displayed, include also the name of that keyword, so that the output has the format:

keyword="*value*"

The *locale* command also knows about the following options:

-v, --verbose

Display additional information for some command-line option and argument combinations.

-, --help

Display a summary of command-line options and arguments and exit.

--usage

Display a short usage message and exit.

-V, --version

Display the program version and exit.

FILES

/usr/lib/locale/locale-archive

Usual default locale archive location.

/usr/share/i18n/locales

Usual default path for locale definition files.

CONFORMING TO

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008.

EXAMPLE

\$ locale

LANG=en_US.UTF-8

LC_CTYPE="en_US.UTF-8"

LC_NUMERIC="en_US.UTF-8"

LC_TIME="en_US.UTF-8"

LC_COLLATE="en_US.UTF-8"

LC_MONETARY="en_US.UTF-8"

LC_MESSAGES="en_US.UTF-8"

LC_PAPER="en_US.UTF-8"

LC_NAME="en_US.UTF-8"

LC_ADDRESS="en_US.UTF-8"

LC_TELEPHONE="en_US.UTF-8"

LC_MEASUREMENT="en_US.UTF-8"

LC_IDENTIFICATION="en_US.UTF-8"

LC_ALL=

\$ locale date_fmt

%a %b %e %H:%M:%S %Z %Y

\$ locale -k date_fmt

date_fmt="%a %b %e %H:%M:%S %Z %Y"

\$ locale -ck date_fmt

LC_TIME

date_fmt="%a %b %e %H:%M:%S %Z %Y"

\$ locale LC_TELEPHONE

+%c (%a) %l

(%a) %l

11

1

UTF-8

\$ locale -k LC_TELEPHONE

tel_int_fmt="+%c (%a) %l"

tel_dom_fmt("(%a) %l"

int_select="11"

int_prefix="1"

telephone-codeset="UTF-8"

The following example compiles a custom locale from the */wrk* directory with the **localedef**(1) utility under the *\$HOME/.locale* directory, then tests the result with the **date**(1) command, and then sets the environment variables **LOCPATH** and **LANG** in the shell profile file so that the custom locale will be used in

the subsequent user sessions:

```
$ mkdir -p $HOME/.locale  
$ I18NPATH=./wrk/ localedef -f UTF-8 -i fi_SE $HOME/.locale/fi_SE.UTF-8  
$ LOCPATH=$HOME/.locale LC_ALL=fi_SE.UTF-8 date  
$ echo "export LOCPATH=$HOME/.locale" >> $HOME/.bashrc  
$ echo "export LANG=fi_SE.UTF-8" >> $HOME/.bashrc
```

SEE ALSO

localedef(1), **charmap(5)**, **locale(5)**, **locale(7)**

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 3.74 of the Linux *man-pages* project. A description of the project, information about reporting bugs, and the latest version of this page, can be found at <http://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/>.