

# Command-line (`gtts-cli`)

After installing the package, the `gtts-cli` tool becomes available:

```
$ gtts-cli
```

## gtts-cli

Read `<text>` to mp3 format using Google Translate's Text-to-Speech API (set `<text>` or `--file <file>` to `-` for standard input)

```
gtts-cli [OPTIONS] <text>
```

## Options

**`-f, --file <file>`**

Read from `<file>` instead of `<text>`.

**`-o, --output <file>`**

Write to `<file>` instead of stdout.

**`-s, --slow`**

Read more slowly.

**`-l, --lang <lang>`**

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IETF language tag. Language to speak in. List documented tags with `-all`.

**Default**    en

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**-t, --tld <tld>**

Top-level domain for the Google host,  
i.e <https://translate.google.<tld>>

**Default**    com

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**--nocheck**

Disable strict IETF language tag checking. Allow undocumented tags.

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**--all**

Print all documented available IETF language tags and exit.

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**--debug**

Show debug information.

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**--version**

Show the version and exit.

## Arguments

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**<text>**

Optional argument

## Examples

List available languages:

```
$ gtts-cli --all
```

Read 'hello' to `hello.mp3`:

```
$ gtts-cli 'hello' --output hello.mp3
```

Read “c'est la vie” in French to `cestlavie.mp3`:

```
$ gtts-cli "c'est la vie" --lang fr --output cestlavie.mp3
```

Read '你好' to `你好.mp3` (in Mandarin, using google.cn):

```
$ gtts-cli '你好' --tld cn --lang zh-cn --output 你好.mp3
```

Read 'slow' slowly to `slow.mp3`:

```
$ gtts-cli 'slow' --slow --output slow.mp3
```

Read 'hello' to `stdout`:

```
$ gtts-cli 'hello'
```

Read `stdin` to `hello.mp3` via `<text>` or `<file>`:

```
$ echo -n 'hello' | gtts-cli - --output hello.mp3  
$ echo -n 'hello' | gtts-cli --file - --output hello.mp3
```

Read 'no check' to `nocheck.mp3` without language checking:

```
$ gtts-cli 'no check' --lang zh --nocheck --output nocheck.mp3
```

## Note

Using `--nocheck` can speed up execution. It exists mostly however to force a `<lang>` language tag that might not be documented but would work with the API, such as for specific regional sub-tags of documented tags (examples for 'en': 'en-gb', 'en-au', etc.).

# Playing sound directly

You can pipe the output of `gtts-cli` into any media player that supports `stdin`. For example, using the `play` command from [SoX](#):

```
$ gtts-cli 'hello' | play -t mp3 -
```