

# RUBY Documentation Generator – RDOC

Usage: `rdoc [options] [names/directories...]`

Files are parsed, and the information they contain collected, before any output is produced. This allows cross references between all files to be resolved. If a name is a directory, it is traversed. If no names are specified, all Ruby files in the current directory (and sub-directories) are processed.

How RDoc generates output depends on the output formatter being used, and on the options you give.

Options can be specified via the `RDOCOPT` environment variable, which functions similar to the `RUBYOPT` environment variable for ruby. For example:

```
$ export RDOCOPT = "--show-hash"
```

will make `rdoc` show hashes in method links by default. Note that command-line options always will override those contained in `RDOCOPT`.

Available formatters:

- `darkfish` - HTML generator, written by Michael Granger
- `pot` - creates `.pot` file
- `ri` - creates `ri` data files

RDoc understands the following file formats:

- `C:` `\.(?:([CcHh])\1?|c(?:[+xp])\2|y)\z`
- `ChangeLog:` `(/|\||\A)ChangeLog[^\|\\]*\z`
- `Markdown:` `\.(md|markdown)(?:\.[^.]*)?\z`
- `RD:` `\.rd(?:\.[^.]*)?\z`
- `Ruby:` `\.rbw?\z`
- `Simple:`
- `TomDoc:` Only in ruby files

The following options are deprecated:

- `--accessor` [support discontinued](#)
- `--diagram` [support discontinued](#)
- `--help-output` [support discontinued](#)
- `--image-format` was an option for `--diagram`
- `--inline-source` source code is now always inlined
- `--merge` `ri` now always merges class information
- `--one-file` [support discontinued](#)
- `--op-name` [support discontinued](#)
- `--opname` [support discontinued](#)
- `--promiscuous` files always only document their content
- `--ri-system` Ruby installers use other techniques

Parsing options:		
-e	--encoding=ENCODING	Specifies the output encoding. All files read will be converted to this encoding. Preferred over --charset
-a	--all	Synonym for --visibility=private.
-x	--exclude=PATTERN	Do not process files or directories matching PATTERN.
-E	--extension=NEW=OLD	Treat files ending with .new as if they ended with .old. Using '-E cgi=rb' will cause xxx.cgi to be parsed as a Ruby file.
-U	--[no-]force-update	Forces rdoc to scan all sources even if newer than the flag file.
-p	--pipe	Convert RDoc on stdin to HTML
-w	--tab-width=WIDTH	Set the width of tab characters.
-V	--visibility=VISIBILITY	Minimum visibility to document a method. One of 'public', 'protected' (the default) or 'private'. Can be abbreviated.
	--markup=MARKUP	The markup format for the named files. The default is rdoc. Valid values are: rd, rdoc, tomdoc
	--root=ROOT	Root of the source tree documentation will be generated for. Set this when building documentation outside the source directory. Default is the current directory.
	--page-dir=DIR	Directory where guides, your FAQ or other pages not associated with a class live. Set this when you don't store such files at your project root. NOTE: Do not use the same file name in the page dir and the root of your project

Common generator options:		
-O	--force-output	Forces rdoc to write the output files, even if the output directory exists and does not seem to have been created by rdoc.
-f,--fmt	--format=FORMAT	Set the output formatter. One of: darkfish ri
-i	--include=DIRECTORIES	Set (or add to) the list of directories to be searched when satisfying :include: requests. Can be used more than once.
	-C[LEVEL], --[no-]coverage-report --[no-]dcov	Prints a report on undocumented items. Does not generate files. -C0 covers Classes, Modules, Constants, Attributes, and Methods. -C1 adds Parameters to the above.
-o	--output, --op=DIR	Set the output directory.
-d		Deprecated --diagram option. Prevents firing debug mode with legacy invocation.

HTML generator options:		
-c	--charset=CHARSET	Specifies the output HTML character-set. Use --encoding instead of --charset if available.
-A	--hyperlink-all	Generate hyperlinks for all words that correspond to known methods, even if they do not start with '#' or '::' (legacy behavior).
-m	--main=NAME	NAME will be the initial page displayed.
-N	--[no-]line-numbers	Include line numbers in the source code. By default, only the number of the first line is displayed, in a leading comment.

HTML generator options:		
-H	--show-hash	A name of the form #name in a comment is a possible hyperlink to an instance method name. When displayed, the '#' is removed unless this option is specified.
-T	--template=NAME	Set the template used when generating output. The default depends on the formatter used.
-t	--title=TITLE	Set TITLE as the title for HTML output.
	--copy-files=PATH	Specify a file or directory to copy static files from. If a file is given it will be copied into the output dir. If a directory is given the entire directory will be copied. You can use this multiple times.
-W	--webcvs=URL	Specify a URL for linking to a web frontend to CVS. If the URL contains a '%s', the name of the current file will be substituted; if the URL doesn't contain a '%s', the filename will be appended to it.

ri generator options:		
-r	--ri	Generate output for use by `ri`. The files are stored in the '.rdoc' directory under your home directory unless overridden by a subsequent --op parameter, so no special privileges are needed.
-R	--ri-site	Generate output for use by `ri`. The files are stored in a site-wide directory, making them accessible to others, so special privileges are needed.

Generic options:		
	--write-options	Write .rdoc_options to the current directory with the given options. Not all options will be used. See Rdoc::Options for details.
	--[no-]dry-run	Don't write any files
-D	--[no-]debug	Displays lots on internal stuff.
	--[no-]ignore-invalid	Ignore invalid options and continue (default true).
-q	--quiet	Don't show progress as we parse.
-v	--verbose	Display extra progress as RDoc parses
	--help	Display the help message.