

**NAME**

**pr** – convert text files for printing

**SYNOPSIS**

**pr** [*OPTION*]... [*FILE*]...

**DESCRIPTION**

Paginate or columnate *FILE*(s) for printing.

With no *FILE*, or when *FILE* is **-**, read standard input.

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

**+FIRST\_PAGE[:LAST\_PAGE]**, **--pages=FIRST\_PAGE[:LAST\_PAGE]**

begin [stop] printing with page FIRST\_[LAST\_]PAGE

**-COLUMN**, **--columns=COLUMN**

output *COLUMN* columns and print columns down, unless **-a** is used. Balance number of lines in the columns on each page

**-a**, **--across**

print columns across rather than down, used together with **-COLUMN**

**-c**, **--show-control-chars**

use hat notation (^G) and octal backslash notation

**-d**, **--double-space**

double space the output

**-D**, **--date-format=FORMAT**

use *FORMAT* for the header date

**-e[CHAR[WIDTH]]**, **--expand-tabs[=CHAR[WIDTH]]**

expand input CHARs (TABs) to tab *WIDTH* (8)

**-F**, **-f**, **--form-feed**

use form feeds instead of newlines to separate pages (by a 3-line page header with **-F** or a 5-line header and trailer without **-F**)

**-h**, **--header=HEADER**

use a centered *HEADER* instead of filename in page header, **-h ""** prints a blank line, don't use **-h ""**

**-i[CHAR[WIDTH]]**, **--output-tabs[=CHAR[WIDTH]]**

replace spaces with CHARs (TABs) to tab *WIDTH* (8)

**-J**, **--join-lines**

merge full lines, turns off **-W** line truncation, no column alignment, **--sep-string[=STRING]** sets separators

**-l**, **--length=PAGE\_LENGTH**

set the page length to *PAGE\_LENGTH* (66) lines (default number of lines of text 56, and with **-F** 63). implies **-t** if *PAGE\_LENGTH* <= 10

**-m**, **--merge**

print all files in parallel, one in each column, truncate lines, but join lines of full length with **-J**

**-n[SEP[DIGITS]]**, **--number-lines[=SEP[DIGITS]]**

number lines, use *DIGITS* (5) digits, then *SEP* (TAB), default counting starts with 1st line of input file

**-N**, **--first-line-number=NUMBER**

start counting with *NUMBER* at 1st line of first page printed (see **+FIRST\_PAGE**)

- o, --indent=*MARGIN***  
offset each line with *MARGIN* (zero) spaces, do not affect **-w** or **-W**, *MARGIN* will be added to *PAGE\_WIDTH*
- r, --no-file-warnings**  
omit warning when a file cannot be opened
- s[*CHAR*], --separator[=*CHAR*]**  
separate columns by a single character, default for *CHAR* is the <TAB> character without **-w** and 'no char' with **-w**. **-s[*CHAR*]** turns off line truncation of all 3 column options (**-COLUMN**|**-a** **-COLUMN**|**-m**) except **-w** is set
- S[*STRING*], --sep-string[=*STRING*]**  
separate columns by *STRING*, without **-S**: Default separator <TAB> with **-J** and <space> otherwise (same as **-S** " "), no effect on column options
- t, --omit-header**  
omit page headers and trailers; implied if *PAGE\_LENGTH* <= 10
- T, --omit-pagination**  
omit page headers and trailers, eliminate any pagination by form feeds set in input files
- v, --show-nonprinting**  
use octal backslash notation
- w, --width=*PAGE\_WIDTH***  
set page width to *PAGE\_WIDTH* (72) characters for multiple text-column output only, **-s[*char*]** turns off (72)
- W, --page-width=*PAGE\_WIDTH***  
set page width to *PAGE\_WIDTH* (72) characters always, truncate lines, except **-J** option is set, no interference with **-S** or **-s**
- help** display this help and exit
- version**  
output version information and exit

## AUTHOR

Written by Pete TerMaat and Roland Huebner.

## REPORTING BUGS

GNU coreutils online help: <<https://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/>>

Report any translation bugs to <<https://translationproject.org/team/>>

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## SEE ALSO

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