

**NAME**

expand – convert tabs to spaces

**SYNOPSIS**

**expand** [*OPTION*]... [*FILE*]...

**DESCRIPTION**

Convert tabs in each *FILE* to spaces, writing to standard output.

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

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

**-i, --initial**

do not convert tabs after non blanks

**-t, --tabs=*N***

have tabs *N* characters apart, not 8

**-t, --tabs=*LIST***

use comma separated list of tab positions The last specified position can be prefixed with '/' to specify a tab size to use after the last explicitly specified tab stop. Also a prefix of '+' can be used to align remaining tab stops relative to the last specified tab stop instead of the first column

**--help** display this help and exit

**--version**

output version information and exit

**AUTHOR**

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**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**

unexpand(1)

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