NAME
>   shred − overwrite a file to hide its contents, and optionally delete it

SYNOPSIS
>   **shred** [*OPTION*]... *FILE*...

DESCRIPTION
>   Overwrite the specified FILE(s) repeatedly, in order to make it harder for even very expensive hardware probing to recover the data.

>   If FILE is −, shred standard output.

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

>   **−f**, **−−force**
>>   change permissions to allow writing if necessary

>   **−n**, **−−iterations**=*N*
>>   overwrite N times instead of the default (3)

>   **−−random−source**=*FILE*
>>   get random bytes from FILE

>   **−s**, **−−size**=*N*
>>   shred this many bytes (suffixes like K, M, G accepted)

>   **−u**   deallocate and remove file after overwriting

>   **−−remove**[=*HOW*]
>>   like **−u** but give control on HOW to delete; See below

>   **−v**, **−−verbose**
>>   show progress

>   **−x**, **−−exact**
>>   do not round file sizes up to the next full block;

>>   this is the default for non−regular files

>   **−z**, **−−zero**
>>   add a final overwrite with zeros to hide shredding

>   **−−help**   display this help and exit

>   **−−version**
>>   output version information and exit

>   Delete FILE(s) if **−−remove** (**−u**) is specified. The default is not to remove the files because it is common to operate on device files like */dev/hda*, and those files usually should not be removed. The optional HOW parameter indicates how to remove a directory entry: 'unlink' => use a standard unlink call. 'wipe' => also first obfuscate bytes in the name. 'wipesync' => also sync each obfuscated byte to disk. The default mode is 'wipesync', but note it can be expensive.

>   CAUTION: shred assumes the file system and hardware overwrite data in place. Although this is common, many platforms operate otherwise. Also, backups and mirrors may contain unremovable copies that will let a shredded file be recovered later. See the GNU coreutils manual for details.

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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

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