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attrib

Article • 09/25/2023 • 9 contributors

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Displays, sets, or removes attributes assigned to files or directories. If used without parameters, **attrib** displays attributes of all files in the current directory.

Syntax

```
attrib [{+|-}r] [{+|-}a] [{+|-}s] [{+|-}h] [{+|-}o] [{+|-}i]
```

Parameters

Expand table

Parameter	Description
`{+|-}r`	Sets (+) or clears (-) the Read-only file attribute.
`{+|-}a`	Sets (+) or clears (-) the Archive file attribute. This attribute set marks files that have changed since the last time they were backed up. The **xcopy** command uses archive attributes.
`{+|-}s`	Sets (+) or clears (-) the System file attribute. If a file uses this attribute set, you must clear the attribute before you can change any other attributes for the file.
`{+|-}h`	Sets (+) or clears (-) the Hidden file attribute. If a file uses this attribute set, you must clear the attribute before you can change any other attributes for the file.
`{+|-}o`	Sets (+) or clears (-) the Offline file attribute.
`{+|-}i`	Sets (+) or clears (-) the Not Content Indexed file attribute.
`{+|-}x`	Sets (+) or clears (-) the Scrub file attribute.
`{+|-}p`	Sets (+) or clears (-) the Pinned file attribute.
`{+|-}u`	Sets (+) or clears (-) the Unpinned file attribute.
`{+|-}b`	Sets (+) or clears (-) the SMR Blob file attribute.
`[<drive>:]` `[<path>]` `[<filename>]`	Specifies the location and name of the directory, file, or group of files that you want to view or change attributes. You can use the **?** and * wildcard characters in the *filename* parameter to display or change the attributes for a group of files.

/s	Applies **attrib** and any command-line options to matching files in the current directory and all of its subdirectories.
/d	Applies **attrib** and any command-line options to directories.
/l	Applies **attrib** and any command-line options to the Symbolic Link, rather than the target of the Symbolic Link.
/?	Displays help at the command prompt.

Examples

To display the attributes of a file named News86 that is located in the current directory, type:

```
attrib news86
```

To assign the Read-only attribute to the file named report.txt, type:

```
attrib +r report.txt
```

To remove the Read-only attribute from files in the public directory and its subdirectories on a disk in drive b:, type:

```
attrib -r b:\public\*.* /s
```

To set the Archive attribute for all files on drive a:, and then clear the Archive attribute for files with the .bak extension, type:

```
attrib +a a:*.* & attrib -a a:*.bak
```

Related links

- Command-Line Syntax Key
- xcopy command

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