NAME

rgbasm - Game Boy assembler

SYNOPSIS

rgbasm [**-EhLVvw**] [**-b** *chars*] [**-D** *name*[=*value*]] [**-g** *chars*] [**-i** *path*] [**-M** *depend_file*] [**-MG**] [**-MP**] [**-MT** *target_file*] [**-MQ** *target_file*] [**-o** *out_file*] [**-p** *pad_value*] [**-r** *recursion_depth*] [**-W** *warning*] *file ...*

DESCRIPTION

The **rgbasm** program creates an RGB object file from an assembly source file. The input *file* can be a file path, or **-** denoting **stdin**.

Note that options can be abbreviated as long as the abbreviation is unambiguous: **--verb** is **--verbose**, but **--ver** is invalid because it could also be **--version**. The arguments are as follows:

-b *chars*, **--binary-digits** *chars*

Change the two characters used for binary constants. The defaults are 01.

-D *name*[=*value*], **--define** *name*[=*value*]

Add a string symbol to the compiled source code. This is equivalent to ‘*name* **EQUS "**_value_"’ in code, or ‘*name* **EQUS "1"**’ if *value* is not specified.

-E, **--export-all**

Export all labels, including unreferenced and local labels.

-g *chars*, **--gfx-chars** *chars*

Change the four characters used for gfx constants. The defaults are 0123.

-h, **--halt-without-nop**

By default, **rgbasm** inserts a **nop** instruction immediately after any **halt** instruction. The **-h** option disables this behavior.

-i *path*, **--include** *path*

Add an include path.

-L, **--preserve-ld**

Disable the optimization that turns loads of the form **LD [$FF00+n8],A** into the opcode **LDH [$FF00+n8],A** in order to have full control of the result in the final ROM.

-M *depend_file*, **--dependfile** *depend_file*

Print make(1) dependencies to *depend_file*.

-MG To be used in conjunction with **-M**. This makes **rgbasm** assume that missing files are auto-generated: when **INCLUDE** or **INCBIN** is attempted on a non-existent file, it is added as a dependency, then **rgbasm** exits normally instead of erroring out. This feature is used in automatic updating of makefiles.

-MP When enabled, this causes a phony target to be added for each dependency other than the main file. This prevents make(1) from erroring out when dependency files are deleted.

-MT *target_file*

Add a target to the rules emitted by **-M**. The exact string provided will be written, including spaces and special characters.

-MT fileA **-MT** fileB

is equivalent to

-MT 'fileA fileB'.

If neither this nor **-MQ** is specified, the output file name is used.

-MQ *target_file*

Same as **-MT**, but additionally escapes any special make(1) characters, essentially '$'.

-o *out_file*, **--output** *out_file*

Write an object file to the given filename.

-p *pad_value*, **--pad-value** *pad_value*

When padding an image, pad with this value. The default is 0x00.

-r *recursion_depth*, **--recursion-depth** *recursion_depth*

Specifies the recursion depth at which RGBASM will assume being in an infinite loop.

-V, **--version**

Print the version of the program and exit.

-v, **--verbose**

Be verbose.

-W *warning*, **--warning** *warning*

Set warning flag *warning*. A warning message will be printed if *warning* is an unknown warning flag. See the *DIAGNOSTICS* section for a list of warnings.

-w Disable all warning output, even when turned into errors.

DIAGNOSTICS

Warnings are diagnostic messages that indicate possibly erroneous behavior that does not necessarily compromise the assembling process. The following options alter the way warnings are processed.

-Werror

Make all warnings into errors.

-Werror=

Make the specified warning into an error. A warning's name is appended (example: **-Werror=obsolete**), and this warning is implicitly enabled and turned into an error. This is an error if used with a meta warning, such as **-Werror=all**.

The following warnings are "meta" warnings, that enable a collection of other warnings. If a specific warning is toggled via a meta flag and a specific one, the more specific one takes priority. The position on the command-line acts as a tie breaker, the last one taking effect.

-Wall This enables warnings that are likely to indicate an error or undesired behavior, and that can easily be fixed.

-Wextra

This enables extra warnings that are less likely to pose a problem, but that may still be wanted.

-Weverything

Enables literally every warning.

The following warnings are actual warning flags; with each description, the corresponding warning flag is included. Note that each of these flag also has a negation (for example, **-Wcharmap-redef** enables the warning that **-Wno-charmap-redef** disables). Only the non-default flag is listed here. Ignoring the "no-" prefix, entries are listed alphabetically.

-Wno-assert

Warns when **WARN**-type assertions fail. (See "Aborting the assembly process" in rgbasm(5) for **ASSERT**).

-Wbuiltin-args

Warn about incorrect arguments to built-in functions, such as **STRSUB**() with indexes outside of the string's bounds. This warning is enabled by **-Wall**.

-Wcharmap-redef
Warn when re-defining a charmap mapping. This warning is enabled by **-Wall**.

-Wdiv Warn when dividing the smallest negative integer by -1, which yields itself due to integer overflow.

-Wempty-macro-arg
Warn when a macro argument is empty. This warning is enabled by **-Wextra**.

-Wempty-strrpl
Warn when **STRRPL**() is called with an empty string as its second argument (the substring to replace). This warning is enabled by **-Wall**.

-Wlarge-constant
Warn when a constant too large to fit in a signed 32-bit integer is encountered. This warning is enabled by **-Wall**.

-Wlong-string
Warn when a string too long to fit in internal buffers is encountered. This warning is enabled by **-Wall**.

-Wmacro-shift
Warn when shifting macro arguments past their limits. This warning is enabled by **-Wextra**.

-Wno-obsolete
Warn when obsolete constructs such as the **_PI** constant or **PRINTT** directive are encountered.

-Wshift
Warn when shifting right a negative value. Use a division by 2^N instead.

-Wshift-amount
Warn when a shift's operand is negative or greater than 32.

-Wno-truncation
Warn when an implicit truncation (for example, **db**) loses some bits.

-Wno-user
Warn when the **WARN** built-in is executed. (See "Aborting the assembly process" in rgbasm(5) for **WARN**).

EXAMPLES

You can assemble a source file in two ways.

Straightforward way:

```
$ rgbasm -o bar.o foo.asm
```

Pipes way:

```
$ cat foo.asm | rgbasm -o bar.o -
$ rgbasm -o bar.o - < foo.asm
```

The resulting object file is not yet a usable ROM image--it must first be run through rgblink(1) and then rgbfix(1).

BUGS

Please report bugs on *GitHub*: **https://github.com/gbdev/rgbds/issues**.

SEE ALSO

rgbasm(5), rgbfix(1), rgblink(1), rgbds(5), rgbds(7), gbz80(7)

HISTORY

rgbasm was originally written by Carsten Sǿrensen as part of the ASMotor package, and was later packaged in RGBDS by Justin Lloyd. It is now maintained by a number of contributors at **https://github.com/gbdev/rgbds**.