

tail(1) - Linux man page

Name

tail - output the last part of files

Synopsis

tail [*OPTION*...]... [*FILE*]...

Description

Print the last 10 lines of each *FILE* to standard output. With more than one *FILE*, precede each with a header giving the file name. With no *FILE*, or when *FILE* is -, read standard input.

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

-c, --bytes=K

output the last K bytes; alternatively, use **-c +K** to output bytes starting with the Kth of each file

-f, --follow[={name|descriptor}]

output appended data as the file grows; **-f**, **--follow**, and **--follow=descriptor** are equivalent

-F

same as **--follow=name --retry**

-n, --lines=K

output the last K lines, instead of the last 10; or use **-n +K** to output lines starting with the Kth

--max-unchanged-stats=N

with **--follow=name**, reopen a *FILE* which has not changed size after N (default 5) iterations to see if it has been unlinked or renamed (this is the usual case of rotated log files). With inotify, this option is rarely useful.

--pid=PID

with **-f**, terminate after process ID, PID dies

-q, --quiet, --silent

never output headers giving file names

--retry

keep trying to open a file even when it is or becomes inaccessible; useful when following by name, i.e., with **--follow=name**

-s, --sleep-interval=N

with **-f**, sleep for approximately N seconds (default 1.0) between iterations.

With inotify and **--pid=P**, check process P at

least once every N seconds.

-v, --verbose