pr command in Linux

In Linux/Unix pr command is used to prepare a file for printing by adding suitable footers, headers, and the formatted text. **pr** command actually adds 5 lines of margin both at the top and bottom of the page. The header part shows the date and time of the last modification of the file with the file name and the page number.

Syntax:

```
pr [options][filename]
```

Working with pr command

1. To print k number of columns we use -k. Let's say, we have a file that contains 10 numbers from 1 to 10 with every number in a new line.

```
akash@akash-Vostro-5568:~$ cat abc.txt
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
```

Now if we want to print this content in 3 columns we will use the following command.

```
pr -3 abc.txt
here abc.txt is the name of file.
```

```
akash@akash-Vostro-5568:~$ pr -3 abc.txt


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1                    5                    8
2                    6                    9
3                    7                    10
4
```

2. To suppress the headers and footers the -t option is used.

```
pr -t abc.txt
```

After executing the above command it will give us the following output.

```
akash@akash-Vostro-5568:~$ pr -t abc.txt
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
```

3. To Double the paces input, reduces clutter -d option is used.

```
pr -d abc.txt
```

After executing the above command it will give us the following output.

```
akash@akash-Vostro-5568:~$ pr -d abc.txt


2020-09-11 06:01                      abc.txt                      Page 1


1

2

3

4

5

6

7
```

4. To provide number lines which helps in debugging the code -n option is used.

```
pr -n abc.txt
```

After executing the above command it will give us the following output.

```
akash@akash-Vostro-5568:~$ pr -n abc.txt


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    1    1
    2    2
    3    3
    4    4
    5    5
    6    6
    7    7
    8    8
    9    9
   10   10
```

5. To print the version number of the command –version is used.

```
pr --version
```

After executing the command, it will return us the version in the below mentioned format.

6. To open he help section of the command or to get the details of all the options and attributes of the command –help is used.

```
pr --help
```

After executing the command, it will return us the help section in the following way.