

NAME

ls – list directory contents

SYNOPSIS

ls [*OPTION*]... [*FILE*]...

DESCRIPTION

List information about the FILEs (the current directory by default). Sort entries alphabetically if none of **-cftuvSUX** nor **---sort** is specified.

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

-a, ---all

do not ignore entries starting with .

-A, ---almost-all

do not list implied . and ..

---author

with **-l**, print the author of each file

-b, ---escape

print C-style escapes for nongraphic characters

---block-size=SIZE

scale sizes by SIZE before printing them. E.g., **---block-size=M** prints sizes in units of 1,048,576 bytes. See SIZE format below.

-B, ---ignore-backups

do not list implied entries ending with ~

-c

with **-lt**: sort by, and show, ctime (time of last modification of file status information) with **-l**: show ctime and sort by name otherwise: sort by ctime, newest first

-C

list entries by columns

---color[=WHEN]

colorize the output. WHEN defaults to 'always' or can be 'never' or 'auto'. More info below

-d, ---directory

list directory entries instead of contents, and do not dereference symbolic links

-D, ---dired

generate output designed for Emacs' dired mode

-f

do not sort, enable **-aU**, disable **-ls --color**

-F, ---classify

append indicator (one of */=>@|) to entries

---file-type

likewise, except do not append '**'

---format=WORD

across **-x**, commas **-m**, horizontal **-x**, long **-l**, single-column **-l**, verbose **-l**, vertical **-C**

---full-time

like **-l --time-style=full-iso**

-g

like **-l**, but do not list owner

---group-directories-first

group directories before files.

augment with a **---sort** option, but any use of **---sort=none** (**-U**) disables grouping

- G, --no-group**
in a long listing, don't print group names
- h, --human-readable**
with **-l**, print sizes in human readable format (e.g., 1K 234M 2G)
- si** likewise, but use powers of 1000 not 1024
- H, --dereference-command-line**
follow symbolic links listed on the command line
- dereference-command-line-symlink-to-dir**
follow each command line symbolic link that points to a directory
- hide=PATTERN**
do not list implied entries matching shell PATTERN (overridden by **-a** or **-A**)
- indicator-style=WORD**
append indicator with style WORD to entry names: none (default), slash (**-p**), file-type (**--file-type**), classify (**-F**)
- i, --inode**
print the index number of each file
- I, --ignore=PATTERN**
do not list implied entries matching shell PATTERN
- k, --kibibytes**
use 1024-byte blocks
- l** use a long listing format
- L, --dereference**
when showing file information for a symbolic link, show information for the file the link references rather than for the link itself
- m** fill width with a comma separated list of entries
- n, --numeric-uid-gid**
like **-l**, but list numeric user and group IDs
- N, --literal**
print raw entry names (don't treat e.g. control characters specially)
- o** like **-l**, but do not list group information
- p, --indicator-style=slash**
append / indicator to directories
- q, --hide-control-chars**
print ? instead of non graphic characters
- show-control-chars**
show non graphic characters as-is (default unless program is 'ls' and output is a terminal)
- Q, --quote-name**
enclose entry names in double quotes
- quoting-style=WORD**
use quoting style WORD for entry names: literal, locale, shell, shell-always, c, escape
- r, --reverse**
reverse order while sorting
- R, --recursive**
list subdirectories recursively

- s, --size**
print the allocated size of each file, in blocks
- S**
sort by file size
- sort=WORD**
sort by WORD instead of name: none **-U**, extension **-X**, size **-S**, time **-t**, version **-v**
- time=WORD**
with **-l**, show time as WORD instead of modification time: atime **-u**, access **-u**, use **-u**, ctime **-c**,
or status **-c**; use specified time as sort key if **--sort=time**
- time-style=STYLE**
with **-l**, show times using style STYLE: full-iso, long-iso, iso, locale, +FORMAT. FORMAT is
interpreted like 'date'; if FORMAT is FORMAT1<newline>FORMAT2, FORMAT1 applies to
non-recent files and FORMAT2 to recent files; if STYLE is prefixed with 'posix-', STYLE takes
effect only outside the POSIX locale
- t**
sort by modification time, newest first
- T, --tabsize=COLS**
assume tab stops at each COLS instead of 8
- u**
with **-lt**: sort by, and show, access time with **-l**: show access time and sort by name otherwise: sort
by access time
- U**
do not sort; list entries in directory order
- v**
natural sort of (version) numbers within text
- w, --width=COLS**
assume screen width instead of current value
- x**
list entries by lines instead of by columns
- X**
sort alphabetically by entry extension
- Z, --context**
print any SELinux security context of each file
- 1**
list one file per line
- help** display this help and exit
- version**
output version information and exit

SIZE is an integer and optional unit (example: 10M is 10*1024*1024). Units are K, M, G, T, P, E, Z, Y (powers of 1024) or KB, MB, ... (powers of 1000).

Using color to distinguish file types is disabled both by default and with **--color=never**. With **--color=auto**, ls emits color codes only when standard output is connected to a terminal. The LS_COLORS environment variable can change the settings. Use the dircolors command to set it.

Exit status:

- 0 if OK,
- 1 if minor problems (e.g., cannot access subdirectory),
- 2 if serious trouble (e.g., cannot access command-line argument).

AUTHOR

Written by Richard M. Stallman and David MacKenzie.

REPORTING BUGS

Report ls bugs to bug-coreutils@gnu.org

GNU coreutils home page: <http://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/>

General help using GNU software: <http://www.gnu.org/gethelp/>

Report ls translation bugs to <<http://translationproject.org/team/>>

COPYRIGHT

Copyright © 2013 Free Software Foundation, Inc. License GPLv3+: GNU GPL version 3 or later <<http://gnu.org/licenses/gpl.html>>.

This is free software: you are free to change and redistribute it. There is NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by law.

SEE ALSO

The full documentation for **ls** is maintained as a Texinfo manual. If the **info** and **ls** programs are properly installed at your site, the command

info coreutils 'ls invocation'

should give you access to the complete manual.