NAME

hodie – Print current date and time... in Latin

SYNOPSIS

hodie [*OPTION*]...

DESCRIPTION

hodie prints out the current date using classic Latin, and in addition also prints it out and time using Roman numerals.

OPTIONS

-h, --help

> Print short help message with syntax

-v, --verbose

> Print months and days (pridie, Kalends, Nones, Ides) full and not the respective abbreviations (standard mode of operation)
>
> *Two occurrences of* -v *as well as the use of* -vv *or* --extremely-verbose *will include the* numerals where applicable fully declined, as in 'ante diem **quintum** Kalends Septembres'.

-n, --numerals

> Don't print anything in Latin – only the date and time as Roman numerals.

-x, --force-numerals

> Print both the verbose latin and the date and time as Roman numerals.

-c, --classic, --auc

> Print the year in the classic manner *ab urbe condita* instead of the more modern *anno domini* .

-ad, --ante-diem

> Print the date expressing the number of days to the next main day with the *ante diem* expression instead of ablative case.

-d, --date

> Print out any date. This has a rather special syntax, with a keyword following the *-d* flag choosing input format. See section on *DATE INPUT* below.

-r, --republican OFFSET

> Print out the date dated *ab urbe tua condita* with the offset counted in years as compared to the modern european kalendar (originating with the hypothetical birth of christ). **hodie** *-r -753* would be equivalent with **hodie** *-c*

--version

> Print out the version number of this release and exit. No matter whether other options appear on the command line or not.

DATE INPUT

Following the *-d* or the *--date* option flags, the first item **must** be one of the following:

verbose In this case, the year, month and day are given by following the *verbose* keyword by the flags *-y, --year, -m, --month, -d, --day* for year, month and date respectively

ymd   After this flag, the date comes in the format *YYYY-MM-DD* , where the numbers may be separated by any non-numeric character.

dmy   With this flag, the date is given as *DD-MM-YYYY*

mdy   With this flag, the date is given as *MM-DD-YYYY* Restrictions on the characters that may replace the hyphen apply as above.

HISTORY

The story began on the 10. of August, 2000 (a.d. VI Id. Iul., MM). Having finished most of my assignment for my two-month summer job at Ericsson Eurolab Deutschland, Nuremberg, I was idling around on the Internet, and stumbled over the dotcomma-challenges *<http://www.dotcomma.org>* , where especially the Roman numeral challenge started my mind.

Almost an hour hacking, and there it was, another hour, and the *language support* was there. Before the night was over, I had written this man page and had the layout of a decent **Makefile** drawn out mentally.

At the end of the next day, I was so far that I actually had the workings of *RPM* worked out, constructed a .rpm-package and a .src.rpm-package, which was promptly released on my home-page, announced on freshmeat and uploaded to metalab (apps/misc :-).

Response was quick and plentiful. By now, I have compilation reports from Linux, FreeBSD and SCO Unixware 7; there are a few compability issues to put aside, but it works surprisingly well.

RETURN VALUES

hodie returns zero. Always. If it doesn't, then something is **really** bad with the code.

For some really unreadable code, this means that **hodie** could be used as a strange replacement for **true**

BUGS

It doesn't sanity check the input... telling **hodie** to display the roman form of the 99th of march gives a slightly jumbled output, which most definitely does not make sense.

Reports are more than welcome (e-mail below).

AUTHOR

Now, who would come up with such a thing? Well, I'm Mikael Johansson, a rather all-round geek from Stockholm. I'm gravely interested in languages, in computers and in mathematics; a combination more dangerous than you might think.

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TODO

A double and triple grammar check (will be done as soon as I start my university studies).

Check that it really does display correctly for all dates.

Implement a complementary, ancient Greek program :-)

Perhaps port/translate top, uptime, and other nice utilities to Latin :-)

And, as always... Debugging debugging debugging!

SEE ALSO

date(1)