

# Makefile cheatsheet

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```
uglify = $(uglify)      # lazy assignment
compressor := $(uglify) # immediate assignment
prefix ?= /usr/local    # safe assignment
```

= expressions are only evaluated when they're being used.

## # Magic variables

```
out.o: src.c src.h
    $@ # "out.o" (target)
    $< # "src.c" (first prerequisite)
    $^ # "src.c src.h" (all prerequisites)

%.o: %.c
    $* # the 'stem' with which an implicit rule matches ("foo" in "foo.c")

also:
    $+ # prerequisites (all, with duplication)
    $? # prerequisites (new ones)
    $| # prerequisites (order-only?)

$(@D) # target directory
```

## # Command prefixes

-	Ignore errors
@	Don't print command

+

Run even if Make is in 'don't execute' mode

```
build:
  @echo "compiling"
  -gcc $< $@

-include .depend
```

## # Find files

```
js_files := $(wildcard test/*.js)
all_files := $(shell find images -name "*")
```

## # Substitutions

```
file      = $(SOURCE:.cpp=.o)    # foo.cpp => foo.o
outputs   = $(files:src/%.coffee=lib/%.js)

outputs   = $(patsubst %.c, %.o, $(wildcard *.c))
assets    = $(patsubst images/%, assets/%, $(wildcard images/*))
```

## # More functions

```
$(strip $(string_var))

$(filter %.less, $(files))
$(filter-out %.less, $(files))
```

## # Building files

```
%.o: %.c
  ffmpeg -i $< > $@    # Input and output
foo $^
```

## # Includes

```
-include foo.make
```

## # Options

```
make
-e, --environment-overrides
-B, --always-make
-s, --silent

-j, --jobs=N    # parallel processing
```

## # Conditionals

```
foo: $(objects)
ifeq ($(CC),gcc)
    $(CC) -o foo $(objects) $(libs_for_gcc)
else
    $(CC) -o foo $(objects) $(normal_libs)
endif
```

## # Recursive

```
deploy:
    $(MAKE) deploy2
```

## # Further reading

[isaacs's Makefile](#)

[Your Makefiles are wrong](#)

[Manual](#)