

dd(1) — Linux manual page

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User Commands

DD(1)

NAME [top](#)

dd - convert and copy a file

SYNOPSIS [top](#)

dd [*OPERAND*]...
dd *OPTION*

DESCRIPTION [top](#)

Copy a file, converting and formatting according to the operands.

bs=BYTES

read and write up to BYTES bytes at a time (default: 512);
overrides ibs and obs

cbs=BYTES

convert BYTES bytes at a time

conv=CONVS

convert the file as per the comma separated symbol list

count=N

copy only N input blocks

ibs=BYTES

read up to BYTES bytes at a time (default: 512)

if=FILE

read from FILE instead of stdin

iflag=FLAGS

read as per the comma separated symbol list

obs=BYTES

write BYTES bytes at a time (default: 512)

of=FILE

write to FILE instead of stdout

oflag=FLAGS

write as per the comma separated symbol list

seek=N skip N obs-sized blocks at start of output

skip=N skip N ibs-sized blocks at start of input

status=LEVEL

The LEVEL of information to print to stderr; 'none' suppresses everything but error messages, 'noxfer' suppresses the final transfer statistics, 'progress' shows periodic transfer statistics

N and BYTES may be followed by the following multiplicative suffixes: c=1, w=2, b=512, kB=1000, K=1024, MB=1000*1000, M=1024*1024, xM=M, GB=1000*1000*1000, G=1024*1024*1024, and so on for T, P, E, Z, Y. Binary prefixes can be used, too: KiB=K, MiB=M, and so on.

Each CONV symbol may be:

ascii from EBCDIC to ASCII

ebcdic from ASCII to EBCDIC

ibm from ASCII to alternate EBCDIC

block pad newline-terminated records with spaces to cbs-size

unblock

replace trailing spaces in cbs-size records with newline

lcase change upper case to lower case

ucase change lower case to upper case

sparse try to seek rather than write all-NUL output blocks

swab swap every pair of input bytes

sync pad every input block with NULs to ibs-size; when used with block or unblock, pad with spaces rather than NULs

excl fail if the output file already exists

`nocreat`

do not create the output file

`notrunc`

do not truncate the output file

`noerror`

continue after read errors

`fdatasync`

physically write output file data before finishing

`fsync` likewise, but also write metadata

Each FLAG symbol may be:

`append` append mode (makes sense only for output; `conv=notrunc` suggested)

`direct` use direct I/O for data

`directory`

fail unless a directory

`dsync` use synchronized I/O for data

`sync` likewise, but also for metadata

`fullblock`

accumulate full blocks of input (`iflag` only)

`nonblock`

use non-blocking I/O

`noatime`

do not update access time

`nocache`

Request to drop cache. See also `oflag=sync`

`noctty` do not assign controlling terminal from file

`nofollow`

do not follow symlinks

`count_bytes`

treat 'count=N' as a byte count (`iflag` only)

`skip_bytes`

treat 'skip=N' as a byte count (`iflag` only)

`seek_bytes`

treat 'seek=N' as a byte count (oflag only)

Sending a USR1 signal to a running 'dd' process makes it print I/O statistics to standard error and then resume copying.

Options are:

--help display this help and exit

--version
output version information and exit

AUTHOR [top](#)

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REPORTING BUGS [top](#)

GNU coreutils online help:
<<https://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/>>
Report any translation bugs to
<<https://translationproject.org/team/>>

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SEE ALSO [top](#)

Full documentation <<https://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/dd>> or available locally via: info '(coreutils) dd invocation'

COLOPHON [top](#)

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