NAME

strings − print the strings of printable characters in files.

SYNOPSIS

strings [**−afov**] [*−min-len*]
[**−n** *min-len*] [**−−bytes=***min-len*]
[**−t** *radix*] [**−−radix=***radix*]
[**−e** *encoding*] [**−−encoding=***encoding*]
[**−**] [**−−all**] [**−−print−file−name**]
[**−−target=***bfdname*]
[**−−help**] [**−−version**] *file...*

DESCRIPTION

For each *file* given, GNU **strings** prints the printable character sequences that are at least 4 characters long (or the number given with the options below) and are followed by an unprintable character. By default, it only prints the strings from the initialized and loaded sections of object files; for other types of files, it prints the strings from the whole file.

strings is mainly useful for determining the contents of non-text files.

OPTIONS

−a
−−all
− Do not scan only the initialized and loaded sections of object files; scan the whole files.

−f
−−print−file−name
Print the name of the file before each string.

−−help
Print a summary of the program usage on the standard output and exit.

−min-len
−n *min-len*
−−bytes=*min-len*
Print sequences of characters that are at least *min-len* characters long, instead of the default 4.

−o Like **−t o**. Some other versions of **strings** have **−o** act like **−t d** instead. Since we can not be compatible with both ways, we simply chose one.

−t *radix*
−−radix=*radix*
Print the offset within the file before each string. The single character argument specifies the radix of the offset−−−**o** for octal, **x** for hexadecimal, or **d** for decimal.

−e *encoding*
−−encoding=*encoding*
Select the character encoding of the strings that are to be found. Possible values for *encoding* are: **s** = single−7−bit−byte characters (ASCII, ISO 8859, etc., default), **S** = single−8−bit−byte characters, **b** = 16−bit bigendian, **l** = 16−bit littleendian, **B** = 32−bit bigendian, **L** = 32−bit littleendian. Useful for finding wide character strings.

−−target=*bfdname*
Specify an object code format other than your system's default format.

−v
−−version
Print the program version number on the standard output and exit.

SEE ALSO

ar (1), *nm* (1), *objdump* (1), *ranlib* (1), *readelf* (1) and the Info entries for *binutils*.

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