

**NAME**

**ident** – identify RCS keyword strings in files

**SYNOPSIS**

**ident** [ **-q** ] [ **-V** ] [ *file* ... ]

**DESCRIPTION**

**ident** searches for all instances of the pattern *\$keyword: text \$* in the named files or, if no files are named, the standard input.

These patterns are normally inserted automatically by the RCS command **co**(1), but can also be inserted manually. The option **-q** suppresses the warning given if there are no patterns in a file. The option **-V** prints RCS's version number.

**ident** works on text files as well as object files and dumps. For example, if the C program in **f.c** contains

```
#include <stdio.h>
static char const rcsid[] =
    "$Id: f.c,v 5.4 1993/11/09 17:40:15 eggert Exp $";
int main() { return printf("%s\n", rcsid) == EOF; }
```

and **f.c** is compiled into **f.o**, then the command

```
ident f.c f.o
```

will output

```
f.c:
    $Id: f.c,v 5.4 1993/11/09 17:40:15 eggert Exp $
f.o:
    $Id: f.c,v 5.4 1993/11/09 17:40:15 eggert Exp $
```

If a C program defines a string like **rcsid** above but does not use it, **lint**(1) may complain, and some C compilers will optimize away the string. The most reliable solution is to have the program use the **rcsid** string, as shown in the example above.

**ident** finds all instances of the *\$keyword: text \$* pattern, even if *keyword* is not actually an RCS-supported keyword. This gives you information about nonstandard keywords like **\$XConsortium\$**.

**KEYWORDS**

Here is the list of keywords currently maintained by **co**(1). All times are given in Coordinated Universal Time (UTC, sometimes called GMT) by default, but if the files were checked out with **co**'s **-zzone** option, times are given with a numeric time zone indication appended.

**\$Author\$**

The login name of the user who checked in the revision.

**\$Date\$** The date and time the revision was checked in.

**\$Header\$**

A standard header containing the full RCS file name, the revision number, the date and time, the author, the state, and the locker (if locked).

**\$Id\$** Same as **\$Header\$**, except that the RCS file name is without directory components.

**\$Locker\$**

The login name of the user who locked the revision (empty if not locked).

**\$Log\$** The log message supplied during checkin. For **ident**'s purposes, this is equivalent to **\$RCSfile\$**.

**\$Name\$**

The symbolic name used to check out the revision, if any.

**\$RCSfile\$**

The RCS file name without directory components.

**\$Revision\$**

The revision number assigned to the revision.

**\$Source\$**

The full RCS file name.

**\$State\$**

The state assigned to the revision with the **-s** option of **rcs(1)** or **ci(1)**.

**co(1)** represents the following characters in keyword values by escape sequences to keep keyword strings well-formed.

<i>char</i>	<i>escape sequence</i>
tab	<b>\t</b>
newline	<b>\n</b>
space	<b>\040</b>
<b>\$</b>	<b>\044</b>
<b>\</b>	<b>\\</b>

**IDENTIFICATION**

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**SEE ALSO**

**ci(1)**, **co(1)**, **rcs(1)**, **rcsdiff(1)**, **rcsintro(1)**, **rcsmerge(1)**, **rlog(1)**, **rcsfile(5)**.

Walter F. Tichy, RCS—A System for Version Control, *Software—Practice & Experience* **15**, 7 (July 1985), 637-654.