

NAME

comm – compare two sorted files line by line

SYNOPSIS

comm [*OPTION*]... *FILE1 FILE2*

DESCRIPTION

Compare sorted files *FILE1* and *FILE2* line by line.

When *FILE1* or *FILE2* (not both) is –, read standard input.

With no options, produce three-column output. Column one contains lines unique to *FILE1*, column two contains lines unique to *FILE2*, and column three contains lines common to both files.

-1 suppress column 1 (lines unique to *FILE1*)

-2 suppress column 2 (lines unique to *FILE2*)

-3 suppress column 3 (lines that appear in both files)

--check-order

check that the input is correctly sorted, even if all input lines are pairable

--nocheck-order

do not check that the input is correctly sorted

--output-delimiter=STR

separate columns with *STR*

--total output a summary

-z, --zero-terminated

line delimiter is NUL, not newline

--help display this help and exit

--version

output version information and exit

Note, comparisons honor the rules specified by 'LC_COLLATE'.

EXAMPLES

comm -12 file1 file2

Print only lines present in both file1 and file2.

comm -3 file1 file2

Print lines in file1 not in file2, and vice versa.

AUTHOR

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REPORTING BUGS

GNU coreutils online help: <<https://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/>>

Report comm translation bugs to <<https://translationproject.org/team/>>

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SEE ALSO

[join\(1\)](#), [uniq\(1\)](#)

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