

**NAME**

`csplit` – split a file into sections determined by context lines

**SYNOPSIS**

`csplit` [*OPTION*]... *FILE PATTERN*...

**DESCRIPTION**

Output pieces of *FILE* separated by *PATTERN*(s) to files `'xx00'`, `'xx01'`, ..., and output byte counts of each piece to standard output.

Read standard input if *FILE* is `-`

Mandatory arguments to long options are mandatory for short options too.

**-b, --suffix-format=FORMAT**

use `sprintf` *FORMAT* instead of `%02d`

**-f, --prefix=PREFIX**

use *PREFIX* instead of `'xx'`

**-k, --keep-files**

do not remove output files on errors

**--suppress-matched**

suppress the lines matching *PATTERN*

**-n, --digits=DIGITS**

use specified number of digits instead of 2

**-s, --quiet, --silent**

do not print counts of output file sizes

**-z, --elide-empty-files**

remove empty output files

**--help** display this help and exit

**--version**

output version information and exit

**Each PATTERN may be:**

*INTEGER*

copy up to but not including specified line number

*/REGEXP/[OFFSET]*

copy up to but not including a matching line

*%REGEXP%[OFFSET]*

skip to, but not including a matching line

*{INTEGER}*

repeat the previous pattern specified number of times

*{\*}*

repeat the previous pattern as many times as possible

A line *OFFSET* is a required `'+'` or `'-'` followed by a positive integer.

**AUTHOR**

Written by Stuart Kemp and David MacKenzie.

**REPORTING BUGS**

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

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

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permitted by law.

**SEE ALSO**

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