

NAME

ls – list directory contents

SYNOPSIS

ls [*OPTION*]... [*FILE*]...

DESCRIPTION

List information about the FILES (the current directory by default). Sort entries alphabetically if none of **-cftuvSUX** nor **--sort** is specified.

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

-a, --all

do not ignore entries starting with .

-A, --almost-all

do not list implied . and ..

--author

with **-l**, print the author of each file

-b, --escape

print C-style escapes for nongraphic characters

--block-size=SIZE

with **-l**, scale sizes by SIZE when printing them; e.g., **'--block-size=M'**; see SIZE format below

-B, --ignore-backups

do not list implied entries ending with ~

-c

with **-lt**: sort by, and show, ctime (time of last modification of file status information); with **-l**: show ctime and sort by name; otherwise: sort by ctime, newest first

-C

list entries by columns

--color[=WHEN]

colorize the output; WHEN can be 'always' (default if omitted), 'auto', or 'never'; more info below

-d, --directory

list directories themselves, not their contents

-D, --dired

generate output designed for Emacs' dired mode

-f

do not sort, enable **-aU**, disable **-ls --color**

-F, --classify

append indicator (one of */=>@|) to entries

--file-type

likewise, except do not append '*'

--format=WORD

across **-x**, commas **-m**, horizontal **-x**, long **-l**, single-column **-l**, verbose **-l**, vertical **-C**

--full-time

like **-l --time-style=full-iso**

-g

like **-l**, but do not list owner

--group-directories-first

group directories before files;

can be augmented with a **--sort** option, but any use of **--sort=none** (**-U**) disables grouping

- G, --no-group**
in a long listing, don't print group names
- h, --human-readable**
with **-l** and **-s**, print sizes like 1K 234M 2G etc.
- si** likewise, but use powers of 1000 not 1024
- H, --dereference-command-line**
follow symbolic links listed on the command line
- dereference-command-line-symlink-to-dir**
follow each command line symbolic link
that points to a directory
- hide=PATTERN**
do not list implied entries matching shell PATTERN (overridden by **-a** or **-A**)
- hyperlink[=WHEN]**
hyperlink file names; WHEN can be 'always' (default if omitted), 'auto', or 'never'
- indicator-style=WORD**
append indicator with style WORD to entry names: none (default), slash (**-p**), file-type (**--file-type**), classify (**-F**)
- i, --inode**
print the index number of each file
- I, --ignore=PATTERN**
do not list implied entries matching shell PATTERN
- k, --kibibytes**
default to 1024-byte blocks for disk usage; used only with **-s** and per directory totals
- l** use a long listing format
- L, --dereference**
when showing file information for a symbolic link, show information for the file the link references rather than for the link itself
- m** fill width with a comma separated list of entries
- n, --numeric-uid-gid**
like **-l**, but list numeric user and group IDs
- N, --literal**
print entry names without quoting
- o** like **-l**, but do not list group information
- p, --indicator-style=slash**
append / indicator to directories
- q, --hide-control-chars**
print ? instead of nongraphic characters
- show-control-chars**
show nongraphic characters as-is (the default, unless program is 'ls' and output is a terminal)
- Q, --quote-name**
enclose entry names in double quotes
- quoting-style=WORD**
use quoting style WORD for entry names: literal, locale, shell, shell-always, shell-escape, shell-escape-always, c, escape (overrides QUOTING_STYLE environment variable)

- r, --reverse**
reverse order while sorting
- R, --recursive**
list subdirectories recursively
- s, --size**
print the allocated size of each file, in blocks
- S** sort by file size, largest first
- sort=WORD**
sort by WORD instead of name: none (**-U**), size (**-S**), time (**-t**), version (**-v**), extension (**-X**)
- time=WORD**
with **-l**, show time as WORD instead of default modification time: atime or access or use (**-u**);
ctime or status (**-c**); also use specified time as sort key if **--sort=time** (newest first)
- time-style=TIME_STYLE**
time/date format with **-l**; see TIME_STYLE below
- t** sort by modification time, newest first
- T, --tabsize=COLS**
assume tab stops at each COLS instead of 8
- u** with **-lt**: sort by, and show, access time; with **-l**: show access time and sort by name; otherwise:
sort by access time, newest first
- U** do not sort; list entries in directory order
- v** natural sort of (version) numbers within text
- w, --width=COLS**
set output width to COLS. 0 means no limit
- x** list entries by lines instead of by columns
- X** sort alphabetically by entry extension
- Z, --context**
print any security context of each file
- 1** list one file per line. Avoid '\n' with **-q** or **-b**
- help** display this help and exit
- version**
output version information and exit

The SIZE argument is an integer and optional unit (example: 10K is 10*1024). Units are K,M,G,T,P,E,Z,Y (powers of 1024) or KB,MB,... (powers of 1000).

The TIME_STYLE argument can be full-iso, long-iso, iso, locale, or +FORMAT. FORMAT is interpreted like in [date\(1\)](#). If FORMAT is FORMAT1<newline>FORMAT2, then FORMAT1 applies to non-recent files and FORMAT2 to recent files. TIME_STYLE prefixed with 'posix-' takes effect only outside the POSIX locale. Also the TIME_STYLE environment variable sets the default style to use.

Using color to distinguish file types is disabled both by default and with **--color=never**. With **--color=auto**, ls emits color codes only when standard output is connected to a terminal. The LS_COLORS environment variable can change the settings. Use the `dircolors` command to set it.

Exit status:

- 0 if OK,
- 1 if minor problems (e.g., cannot access subdirectory),

2 if serious trouble (e.g., cannot access command-line argument).

AUTHOR

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REPORTING BUGS

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

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

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SEE ALSO

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