

NAME

timeout – run a command with a time limit

SYNOPSIS

timeout [*OPTION*] *DURATION* *COMMAND* [*ARG*]...

timeout [*OPTION*]

DESCRIPTION

Start *COMMAND*, and kill it if still running after *DURATION*.

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

--preserve-status

exit with the same status as *COMMAND*, even when the command times out

--foreground

when not running *timeout* directly from a shell prompt, allow *COMMAND* to read from the TTY and get TTY signals; in this mode, children of *COMMAND* will not be timed out

-k, --kill-after=*DURATION*

also send a KILL signal if *COMMAND* is still running this long after the initial signal was sent

-s, --signal=*SIGNAL*

specify the signal to be sent on timeout; *SIGNAL* may be a name like 'HUP' or a number; see 'kill -l' for a list of signals

-v, --verbose

diagnose to stderr any signal sent upon timeout

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

output version information and exit

DURATION is a floating point number with an optional suffix: 's' for seconds (the default), 'm' for minutes, 'h' for hours or 'd' for days. A duration of 0 disables the associated timeout.

If the command times out, and **--preserve-status** is not set, then exit with status 124. Otherwise, exit with the status of *COMMAND*. If no signal is specified, send the TERM signal upon timeout. The TERM signal kills any process that does not block or catch that signal. It may be necessary to use the KILL (9) signal, since this signal cannot be caught, in which case the exit status is 128+9 rather than 124.

BUGS

Some platforms don't currently support timeouts beyond the year 2038.

AUTHOR

Written by Padraig Brady.

REPORTING BUGS

GNU coreutils online help: <<https://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/>>
Report timeout translation bugs to <<https://translationproject.org/team/>>

COPYRIGHT

Copyright © 2018 Free Software Foundation, Inc. License GPLv3+: GNU GPL version 3 or later <<https://gnu.org/licenses/gpl.html>>.

This is free software: you are free to change and redistribute it. There is NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by law.

SEE ALSO

[kill\(1\)](#)

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