

NAME

`zless` – file perusal filter for crt viewing of compressed text

SYNOPSIS

`zless` [name ...]

DESCRIPTION

Zless is a filter which allows examination of compressed or plain text files one screenful at a time on a soft-copy terminal. It is the equivalent of setting the environment variable LESSOPEN to `'|gzip -cdfq -- %s'`, and the environment variable LESSMETACHARS to `'<space><tab><newline>;*?")<>[|^#$%=&~'`, and then running *less*. However, enough people seem to think that having the command *zless* available is important to be worth providing it.

SEE ALSO

[zmore\(1\)](#), [less\(1\)](#)

BUGS

Zless does not work with compressed data that is piped to it via standard input; it requires that input files be specified as arguments. To read compressed data from a pipe, you can use `..|gunzip|less` instead of `..|zless`.

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