NAME

mkfs.minix – make a Minix filesystem

SYNOPSIS

mkfs.minix [options] *device* [*size-in-blocks*]

DESCRIPTION

mkfs.minix creates a Linux MINIX filesystem on a device (usually a disk partition).

The *device* is usually of the following form:

/dev/hda[1–8] (IDE disk 1)
/dev/hdb[1–8] (IDE disk 2)
/dev/sda[1–8] (SCSI disk 1)
/dev/sdb[1–8] (SCSI disk 2)

The device may be a block device or an image file of one, but this is not enforced. Expect not much fun on a character device :-).

The *size-in-blocks* parameter is the desired size of the file system, in blocks. It is present only for backwards compatibility. If omitted the size will be determined automatically. Only block counts strictly greater than 10 and strictly less than 65536 are allowed.

OPTIONS

–c, **––check**
Check the device for bad blocks before creating the filesystem. If any are found, the count is printed.

–n, **––namelength** *length*
Specify the maximum length of filenames. Currently, the only allowable values are 14 and 30 for file system versions 1 and 2. Version 3 allows only value 60. The default is 30.

–i, **––inodes** *number*
Specify the number of inodes for the filesystem.

–l, **––badblocks** *filename*
Read the list of bad blocks from *filename*. The file has one bad-block number per line. The count of bad blocks read is printed.

–1 Make a Minix version 1 filesystem. This is the default.

–2, **–v** Make a Minix version 2 filesystem.

–3 Make a Minix version 3 filesystem.

–V, **––version**
Display version information and exit. The long option cannot be combined with other options.

–h, **––help**
Display help text and exit.

EXIT CODES

The exit code returned by **mkfs.minix** is one of the following:

0 No errors

8 Operational error

16 Usage or syntax error

SEE ALSO

fsck(8), mkfs(8), reboot(8)

AVAILABILITY

The mkfs.minix command is part of the util-linux package and is available from https://www.kernel.org/pub/linux/utils/util-linux/.