

split(1) - Linux manual page

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SPLIT(1)

User Commands

SPLIT(1)

NAME [top](#)

split - split a file into pieces

SYNOPSIS [top](#)

```
split [OPTION]... [FILE [PREFIX]]
```

DESCRIPTION [top](#)

Output pieces of FILE to PREFIXaa, PREFIXab, ...; default size is 1000 lines, and default PREFIX is 'x'.

With no FILE, or when FILE is -, read standard input.

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

-a, --suffix-length=*N*
generate suffixes of length *N* (default 2)

--additional-suffix=*SUFFIX*
append an additional *SUFFIX* to file names

-b, --bytes=*SIZE*
put *SIZE* bytes per output file

-C, --line-bytes=*SIZE*
put at most *SIZE* bytes of records per output file

-d use numeric suffixes starting at 0, not alphabetic

--numeric-suffixes[=*FROM*]
same as -d, but allow setting the start value

-x use hex suffixes starting at 0, not alphabetic

--hex-suffixes[=*FROM*]
same as -x, but allow setting the start value

-e, --elide-empty-files
do not generate empty output files with '-n'

--filter=*COMMAND*
write to shell *COMMAND*; file name is \$FILE

-l, --lines=*NUMBER*
put *NUMBER* lines/records per output file

-n, --number=*CHUNKS*
generate *CHUNKS* output files; see explanation below

-t, --separator=*SEP*
use *SEP* instead of newline as the record separator; '\0'
(zero) specifies the NUL character

-u, --unbuffered
immediately copy input to output with '-n r/...'

--verbose
print a diagnostic just before each output file is opened

--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,R,Q (powers of 1024) or KB,MB,... (powers of 1000). Binary prefixes can be used, too: KiB=K, MiB=M, and so on.

CHUNKS may be:

N split into N files based on size of input

K/N output Kth of N to standard output

L/N split into N files without splitting lines/records

L/K/N output Kth of N to standard output without splitting lines/records

r/N like 'l' but use round robin distribution

r/K/N likewise but only output Kth of N to standard output

AUTHOR [top](#)

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REPORTING BUGS [top](#)

Report bugs to: bug-coreutils@gnu.org

GNU coreutils home page: [<https://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/>](https://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/)

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SEE ALSO [top](#)

Full documentation [<https://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/split>](https://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/split)
or available locally via: `info '(coreutils) split invocation'`

COLOPHON [top](#)

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