

dd(1) - Linux manual page

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DD(1)

User Commands

DD(1)

NAME [top](#)

dd - convert and copy a file

SYNOPSIS [top](#)

```
dd [OPERAND]...  
dd OPTION
```

DESCRIPTION [top](#)

Copy a file, converting and formatting according to the operands.

bs=BYTES

read and write up to BYTES bytes at a time (default: 512);
overrides ibs and obs

cbs=BYTES

convert BYTES bytes at a time

conv=CONVS

convert the file as per the comma separated symbol list

count=N

copy only N input blocks

ibs=BYTES

read up to BYTES bytes at a time (default: 512)

if=FILE

read from FILE instead of standard input

iflag=FLAGS

read as per the comma separated symbol list

obs=BYTES

write BYTES bytes at a time (default: 512)

of=FILE

write to FILE instead of standard output

oflag=FLAGS

write as per the comma separated symbol list

seek=N (or oseek=N) skip N obs-sized output blocks

skip=N (or iseek=N) skip N ibs-sized input blocks

status=LEVEL

The LEVEL of information to print to standard error; 'none' suppresses everything but error messages, 'noxfers' suppresses the final transfer statistics, 'progress' shows periodic transfer statistics

N and BYTES may be followed by the following multiplicative suffixes: c=1, w=2, b=512, kB=1000, K=1024, MB=1000*1000, M=1024*1024, xM=M, GB=1000*1000*1000, G=1024*1024*1024, and so on for T, P, E, Z, Y, R, Q. Binary prefixes can be used, too: KiB=K, MiB=M, and so on. If N ends in 'B', it counts bytes not blocks.

Each CONV symbol may be:

ascii from EBCDIC to ASCII

ebcdic from ASCII to EBCDIC

ibm from ASCII to alternate EBCDIC

block pad newline-terminated records with spaces to cbs-size

unblock

replace trailing spaces in cbs-size records with newline

lcase change upper case to lower case

ucase change lower case to upper case

sparse try to seek rather than write all-NUL output blocks

swab swap every pair of input bytes

`sync` pad every input block with NULs to `ibs-size`; when used with `block` or `unblock`, pad with spaces rather than NULs

`excl` fail if the output file already exists

`nocreat`
do not create the output file

`notrunc`
do not truncate the output file

`noerror`
continue after read errors

`fdatsync`
physically write output file data before finishing

`fsync` likewise, but also write metadata

Each FLAG symbol may be:

`append` append mode (makes sense only for output; `conv=notrunc` suggested)

`direct` use direct I/O for data

`directory`
fail unless a directory

`dsync` use synchronized I/O for data

`sync` likewise, but also for metadata

`fullblock`
accumulate full blocks of input (`iflag` only)

`nonblock`
use non-blocking I/O

`noatime`
do not update access time

`nocache`
Request to drop cache. See also `oflag=sync`

`noctty` do not assign controlling terminal from file

nofollow

do not follow symlinks

Sending a USR1 signal to a running 'dd' process makes it print I/O statistics to standard error and then resume copying.

Options are:

--help display this help and exit

--version

output version information and exit

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/>>

General help using GNU software: <<https://www.gnu.org/gethelp/>>

Report any translation bugs to

<<https://translationproject.org/team/>>

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SEE ALSO [top](#)

Full documentation <<https://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/dd>>

or available locally via: `info '(coreutils) dd invocation'`

COLOPHON [top](#)

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GNU coreutils 9.9

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Pages that refer to this page: [pipesz\(1\)](#), [truncate\(1\)](#), [xfs\(5\)](#), [fdisk\(8\)](#), [sfdisk\(8\)](#), [swapon\(8\)](#), [xfs_copy\(8\)](#), [xfs_repair\(8\)](#).

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