

ENV(1)

User Commands

ENV(1)

## NAME

**env** - run a program in a modified environment

## SYNOPSIS

**env** [OPTION]... [-] [NAME=VALUE]... [COMMAND [ARG]...]

## DESCRIPTION

Set each **NAME** to **VALUE** in the environment and run **COMMAND**.

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

**-i, --ignore-environment**

start with an empty environment

**-0, --null**

end each output line with **NUL**, not newline

**-u, --unset=NAME**

remove variable from the environment

**-C, --chdir=DIR**

**-S, --split-string=S**

process and split S into separate arguments; used to pass multiple arguments on shebang lines

**--block-signal[=SIG]**

block delivery of SIG signal(s) to COMMAND

**--default-signal[=SIG]**

reset handling of SIG signal(s) to the default

**--ignore-signal[=SIG]**

set handling of SIG signal(s) to do nothing

**--list-signal-handling**

list non default signal handling to stderr

**-v, --debug**

print verbose information for each processing step

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

**--version**

output version information and exit

A mere `-` implies `-i`. If no `COMMAND`, print the resulting environment.

`SIG` may be a signal name like `'PIPE'`, or a signal number like `'13'`.

Without `SIG`, all known signals are included. Multiple signals can be comma-separated. An empty `SIG` argument is a no-op.

Exit status:

125 if the `env` command itself fails

126 if `COMMAND` is found but cannot be invoked

127 if `COMMAND` cannot be found

- the exit status of `COMMAND` otherwise

## OPTIONS

`-S/--split-string` usage in scripts

The `-S` option allows specifying multiple parameters in a script. Running a script named `1.pl` containing the following first line:

```
#!/usr/bin/env -S perl -w -T
```

...

Will execute `perl -w -T 1.pl`.

Without the '-S' parameter the script will likely fail with:

```
/usr/bin/env: 'perl -w -T': No such file or directory
```

See the full documentation for more details.

## **--default-signal[=SIG] usage**

This option allows setting a signal handler to its default action, which is not possible using the traditional shell `trap` command. The following example ensures that `seq` will be terminated by `SIGPIPE` no matter how this signal is being handled in the process invoking the command.

```
sh -c 'env --default-signal=PIPE seq inf | head -n1'
```

## **NOTES**

POSIX's `exec(3p)` pages says:

"many existing applications wrongly assume that they start with certain signals set to the default action and/or unblocked....

Therefore, it is best not to block or ignore signals across `execs` without explicit reason to do so, and especially not to block signals across `execs` of arbitrary (not closely cooperating) programs."

# Linux UBUNTU Manual Pages

Written by Richard Mlynarik, David MacKenzie, and Assaf Gordon.

## REPORTING BUGS

GNU coreutils online help: <<https://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/>>

Report any translation bugs to <<https://translationproject.org/team/>>

## COPYRIGHT

Copyright © 2023 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

`sigaction(2)`, `sigprocmask(2)`, `signal(7)`

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

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

GNU coreutils 9.4

June 2025

ENV(1)