

MKFS(8)

System Administration

MKFS(8)

NAME

mkfs - build a Linux filesystem

SYNOPSIS

mkfs [options] [-t type] [fs-options] device [size]

DESCRIPTION

This **mkfs** frontend is deprecated in favour of filesystem specific **mkfs.<type>** utils.

mkfs is used to build a Linux filesystem on a device, usually a hard disk partition. The device argument is either the device name (e.g., **/dev/hda1**, **/dev/sdb2**), or a regular file that shall contain the filesystem. The size argument is the number of blocks to be used for the filesystem.

The exit status returned by **mkfs** is 0 on success and 1 on failure.

In actuality, **mkfs** is simply a front-end for the various filesystem builders (**mkfs.fstype**) available under Linux. The filesystem-specific builder is searched for via your **PATH** environment setting only. Please see the filesystem-specific builder manual pages for further details.

OPTIONS

-t, --type type

Specify the type of filesystem to be built. If not specified, the default filesystem type (currently ext2) is used.

fs-options

Filesystem-specific options to be passed to the real filesystem builder.

-V, --verbose

Produce verbose output, including all filesystem-specific commands that are executed. Specifying this option more than once inhibits execution of any filesystem-specific commands. This is really only useful for testing.

-h, --help

Display help text and exit.

-V, --version

Print version and exit. (Option -V will display version information only when it is the only parameter, otherwise it will work as --verbose.)

filesystem-specific options. Some filesystem-specific programs do not automatically detect the device size and require the size parameter to be specified.

AUTHORS

David Engel <david@ods.com>, Fred N. van Kempen
<waltje@uwalt.nl.mugnet.org>, Ron Sommeling <sommel@sci.kun.nl>.

The manual page was shamelessly adapted from Remy Card's version for the ext2 filesystem.

SEE ALSO

fs(5), badblocks(8), fsck(8), mkdosfs(8), mke2fs(8), mkfs.bfs(8),
mkfs.ext2(8), mkfs.ext3(8), mkfs.ext4(8), mkfs.minix(8), mkfs.msdos(8),
mkfs.vfat(8), mkfs.xfs(8)

REPORTING BUGS

For bug reports, use the issue tracker at
<https://github.com/util-linux/util-linux/issues>.

AVAILABILITY

The mkfs command is part of the util-linux package which can be
downloaded from Linux Kernel Archive

<<https://www.kernel.org/pub/linux/utils/util-linux/>>.

Linux UBUNTU Manual Pages

util-linux 2.39.3

2023-10-23

MKFS(8)