



Rocky Enterprise Linux 9.2 Manual Pages on command 'look.1'

C:\>man look.1

LOOK(1) BSD General Commands Manual LOOK(1)

NAME

look ? display lines beginning with a given string

SYNOPSIS

look [-bdf] [-t termchar] string [file ...]

DESCRIPTION

The look utility displays any lines in file which contain string as a prefix.

If file is not specified, the file /usr/share/dict/words is used, only alphanumeric characters are compared and the case of alphabetic characters is ignored.

The following options are available:

-b, --binary

Use a binary search on the given word list. If you are ignoring case with -f or ignoring non-alphanumeric characters with -d, the file must be sorted in the same way. Please note that these options are the default if no filename is given. See sort(1) for more information on sorting files.

-d, --alphanum

Dictionary character set and order, i.e., only alphanumeric characters are compared.

-f, --ignore-case

Ignore the case of alphabetic characters.

-t, --terminate termchar

Specify a string termination character, i.e., only the characters in string

up to and including the first occurrence of termchar are compared.

ENVIRONMENT

The LANG, LC_ALL and LC_CTYPE environment variables affect the execution of the look utility. Their effect is described in environ(7).

FILES

/usr/share/dict/words the dictionary

EXIT STATUS

The look utility exits 0 if one or more lines were found and displayed, 1 if no lines were found, and >1 if an error occurred.

COMPATIBILITY

The original manual page stated that tabs and blank characters participated in comparisons when the -d option was specified. This was incorrect and the current man page matches the historic implementation.

look uses a linear search by default instead of a binary search, which is what most other implementations use by default.

The -a and --alternative flags are ignored for compatibility.

SEE ALSO

grep(1), sort(1)

HISTORY

A look utility appeared in Version 7 AT&T UNIX.

BUGS

Lines are not compared according to the current locale's collating order. Input files must be sorted with LC_COLLATE set to ?C?.

BSD

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