Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'dir_colors.5' command

$ man dir_colors.5

DIR_COLORS(5)   Linux User Manual   DIR_COLORS(5)

NAME

    dir_colors - configuration file for dircolors(1)

DESCRIPTION

    The program ls(1) uses the environment variable LS_COLORS to determine

    the colors in which the filenames are to be displayed.   This environ?

    ment variable is usually set by a command like

        eval `dircolors some_path/dir_colors`

    found in a system default shell initialization file, like /etc/profile

    or /etc/csh.cshrc. (See also dircolors(1).) Usually, the file used

    here is /etc/DIR_COLORS and can be overridden by a .dir_colors file in

    one's home directory.

    This configuration file consists of several statements, one per line.

    Anything right of a hash mark (#) is treated as a comment, if the hash

    mark is at the beginning of a line or is preceded by at least one

    whitespace. Blank lines are ignored.

    The global section of the file consists of any statement before the

    first TERM statement. Any statement in the global section of the file

    is considered valid for all terminal types. Following the global sec?

    tion is one or more terminal-specific sections, preceded by one or more

    TERM statements which specify the terminal types (as given by the TERM

    environment variable) the following declarations apply to. It is al?

    ways possible to override a global declaration by a subsequent termi?

nal-specific one.

The following statements are recognized; case is insignificant:

TERM terminal-type

Starts a terminal-specific section and specifies which terminal

it applies to. Multiple TERM statements can be used to create a

section which applies for several terminal types.

COLOR yes|all|no|none|tty

(Slackware only; ignored by GNU dircolors(1).)   Specifies that

colorization should always be enabled (yes or all), never en?

abled (no or none), or enabled only if the output is a terminal

(tty). The default is no.

EIGHTBIT yes|no

(Slackware only; ignored by GNU dircolors(1).) Specifies that

eight-bit ISO 8859 characters should be enabled by default. For

compatibility reasons, this can also be specified as 1 for yes

or 0 for no. The default is no.

OPTIONS options

(Slackware only; ignored by GNU dircolors(1).)   Adds command-

line options to the default ls command line. The options can be

any valid ls command-line options, and should include the lead?

ing minus sign. Note that dircolors does not verify the valid?

ity of these options.

NORMAL color-sequence

Specifies the color used for normal (nonfilename) text.

Synonym: NORM.

FILE color-sequence

Specifies the color used for a regular file.

DIR color-sequence

Specifies the color used for directories.

LINK color-sequence

Specifies the color used for a symbolic link.

Synonyms: LNK, SYMLINK.

ORPHAN color-sequence

Specifies the color used for an orphaned symbolic link (one which points to a nonexistent file). If this is unspecified, ls will use the LINK color instead.

MISSING color-sequence

Specifies the color used for a missing file (a nonexistent file which nevertheless has a symbolic link pointing to it). If this is unspecified, ls will use the FILE color instead.

FIFO color-sequence

Specifies the color used for a FIFO (named pipe).

Synonym: PIPE.

SOCK color-sequence

Specifies the color used for a socket.

DOOR color-sequence

(Supported since fileutils 4.1) Specifies the color used for a door (Solaris 2.5 and later).

BLK color-sequence

Specifies the color used for a block device special file.

Synonym: BLOCK.

CHR color-sequence

Specifies the color used for a character device special file.

Synonym: CHAR.

EXEC color-sequence

Specifies the color used for a file with the executable attri?
bute set.

SUID color-sequence

Specifies the color used for a file with the set-user-ID attri?
bute set.

Synonym: SETUID.

SGID color-sequence

Specifies the color used for a file with the set-group-ID attri?
bute set.

Synonym: SETGID.

STICKY color-sequence

Specifies the color used for a directory with the sticky attri‐
bute set.

STICKY_OTHER_WRITABLE color-sequence

Specifies the color used for an other-writable directory with
the executable attribute set.

Synonym: OWT.

OTHER_WRITABLE color-sequence

Specifies the color used for an other-writable directory without
the executable attribute set.

Synonym: OWR.

LEFTCODE color-sequence

Specifies the left code for non-ISO 6429 terminals (see below).

Synonym: LEFT.

RIGHTCODE color-sequence

Specifies the right code for non-ISO 6429 terminals (see below).

Synonym: RIGHT.

ENDCODE color-sequence

Specifies the end code for non-ISO 6429 terminals (see below).

Synonym: END.

*extension color-sequence

Specifies the color used for any file that ends in extension.

.extension color-sequence

Same as *.extension. Specifies the color used for any file that
ends in .extension. Note that the period is included in the ex‐
tension, which makes it impossible to specify an extension not
starting with a period, such as ~ for emacs backup files.   This
form should be considered obsolete.

ISO 6429 (ANSI) color sequences

Most color-capable ASCII terminals today use ISO 6429 (ANSI) color se‐
quences, and many common terminals without color capability, including
xterm and the widely used and cloned DEC VT100, will recognize ISO 6429
color codes and harmlessly eliminate them from the output or emulate
them.   ls uses ISO 6429 codes by default, assuming colorization is en‐

abled.

ISO 6429 color sequences are composed of sequences of numbers separated by semicolons. The most common codes are:

    0   to restore default color

    1   for brighter colors

    4   for underlined text

    5   for flashing text

    30   for black foreground

    31   for red foreground

    32   for green foreground

    33   for yellow (or brown) foreground

    34   for blue foreground

    35   for purple foreground

    36   for cyan foreground

    37   for white (or gray) foreground

    40   for black background

    41   for red background

    42   for green background

    43   for yellow (or brown) background

    44   for blue background

    45   for purple background

    46   for cyan background

    47   for white (or gray) background

Not all commands will work on all systems or display devices.

ls uses the following defaults:

NORMAL   0   Normal (nonfilename) text

FILE   0   Regular file

DIR   32   Directory

LINK   36   Symbolic link

ORPHAN   undefined   Orphaned symbolic link

MISSING   undefined   Missing file

FIFO   31   Named pipe (FIFO)

SOCK   33   Socket

BLK   44;37   Block device

CHR   44;37   Character device

EXEC   35   Executable file

A few terminal programs do not recognize the default properly. If all
text gets colorized after you do a directory listing, change the NORMAL
and FILE codes to the numerical codes for your normal foreground and
background colors.

Other terminal types (advanced configuration)

If you have a color-capable (or otherwise highlighting) terminal (or
printer!) which uses a different set of codes, you can still generate a
suitable setup. To do so, you will have to use the LEFTCODE, RIGHT?
CODE, and ENDCODE definitions.

When writing out a filename, ls generates the following output se?
quence: LEFTCODE typecode RIGHTCODE filename ENDCODE, where the type?
code is the color sequence that depends on the type or name of file.

If the ENDCODE is undefined, the sequence LEFTCODE NORMAL RIGHTCODE
will be used instead.   The purpose of the left- and rightcodes is
merely to reduce the amount of typing necessary (and to hide ugly es?
cape codes away from the user). If they are not appropriate for your
terminal, you can eliminate them by specifying the respective keyword
on a line by itself.

NOTE: If the ENDCODE is defined in the global section of the setup
file, it cannot be undefined in a terminal-specific section of the
file. This means any NORMAL definition will have no effect. A differ?
ent ENDCODE can, however, be specified, which would have the same ef?
fect.

Escape sequences

To specify control- or blank characters in the color sequences or file?
name extensions, either C-style \-escaped notation or stty-style ^-no?
tation can be used. The C-style notation includes the following char?
acters:

    \a   Bell (ASCII 7)

    \b   Backspace (ASCII 8)

\e   Escape (ASCII 27)

\f   Form feed (ASCII 12)

\n   Newline (ASCII 10)

\r   Carriage Return (ASCII 13)

\t   Tab (ASCII 9)

\v   Vertical Tab (ASCII 11)

\?   Delete (ASCII 127)

\nnn   Any character (octal notation)

\xnnn   Any character (hexadecimal notation)

_   Space

\\   Backslash (\)

\^   Caret (^)

\#   Hash mark (#)

Note that escapes are necessary to enter a space, backslash, caret, or

any control character anywhere in the string, as well as a hash mark as

the first character.

FILES

/etc/DIR_COLORS

System-wide configuration file.

~/.dir_colors

Per-user configuration file.

This page describes the dir_colors file format as used in the fileu?

tils-4.1 package; other versions may differ slightly.

NOTES

The default LEFTCODE and RIGHTCODE definitions, which are used by ISO

6429 terminals are:

LEFTCODE   \e[

RIGHTCODE   m

The default ENDCODE is undefined.

SEE ALSO

dircolors(1), ls(1), stty(1), xterm(1)

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 5.10 of the Linux man-pages project.   A

description of the project, information about reporting bugs, and the
latest version of this page, can be found at
https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/.

GNU   2020-08-13   DIR_COLORS(5)