



Linux Ubuntu 26.04 Manual Pages on command 'dpkg-divert.1'

\$ man dpkg-divert.1

dpkg-divert(1) dpkg suite dpkg-divert(1)

NAME

dpkg-divert - override a package's version of a file

SYNOPSIS

dpkg-divert [option...] command

DESCRIPTION

dpkg-divert is the utility used to set up and update the list of diversions.

File diversions are a way of forcing dpkg(1) not to install a file into its location, but to a diverted location. Diversions can be used through the package maintainer scripts to move a file away when it causes a conflict. System administrators can also use it to override some package's configuration file, or whenever some files (which aren't marked as ?conffiles?) need to be preserved by dpkg, when installing a newer version of a package which contains those files.

COMMANDS

[--add] file

Add a diversion for file. The file is currently not renamed, see --rename.

--remove file

Remove a diversion for file. The file is currently not renamed, see --rename.

--list [glob-pattern]

List all diversions, or ones matching glob-pattern.

--listpackage file

Print the name of the package that diverts file (since dpkg 1.15.0). Prints LOCAL if

file is locally diverted and nothing if file is not diverted.

--truename file

Print the real name for a diverted file.

OPTIONS

--admindir directory

Set the administrative directory to directory. Defaults to `"/var/lib/dpkg/` if

`DPKG_ADMINDIR` has not been set.

--instdir directory

Set the installation directory, which refers to the directory where packages get

installed (since dpkg 1.19.2). Defaults to `"/` if `DPKG_ROOT` has not been set.

--root directory

Set the root directory to directory, which sets the installation directory to

`directory/` and the administrative directory to `directory/var/lib/dpkg/` (since dpkg

1.19.2) if `DPKG_ROOT` has not been set.

--divert divert-to

divert-to is the location where the versions of file, as provided by other packages,

will be diverted.

--local

Specifies that all packages' versions of this file are diverted. This means, that there

are no exceptions, and whatever package is installed, the file is diverted. This can be

used by an admin to install a locally modified version.

--package package

package is the name of a package whose copy of file will not be diverted. i.e. file

will be diverted for all packages except package.

--quiet

Quiet mode, i.e. no verbose output.

--rename

Actually move the file aside (or back). dpkg-divert will abort operation in case the

destination file already exists. This is the common behavior used for diversions of

files from the non-Essential package set (see --no-rename for more details).

--no-rename

Specifies that the file should not be renamed while adding or removing the diversion

into the database (since dpkg 1.19.1). This is intended for diversions of files from

the Essential package set, where the temporary disappearance of the original file is not

acceptable, as it can render the system non-functional. This is the default behavior, which will change once there are no known users, but not before the dpkg 1.23.x release cycle.

--test

Test mode, i.e. don't actually perform any changes, just demonstrate.

-, --help

Show the usage message and exit.

--version

Show the version and exit.

EXIT STATUS

- 0 The requested action was successfully performed.
- 2 Fatal or unrecoverable error due to invalid command-line usage, or interactions with the system, such as accesses to the database, memory allocations, etc.

ENVIRONMENT

DPKG_ROOT

If set and the --instdir or --root options have not been specified, it will be used as the filesystem root directory (since dpkg 1.19.2).

DPKG_ADMINDIR

If set and the --admindir or --root options have not been specified, it will be used as the dpkg data directory.

DPKG_MAINTSCRIPT_PACKAGE

If set and the --local and --package options have not been specified, dpkg-divert will use it as the package name.

DPKG_DEBUG

Sets the debug mask (since dpkg 1.21.10) from an octal value. The currently accepted flags are described in the dpkg --debug option, but not all these flags might have an effect on this program.

DPKG_COLORS

Sets the color mode (since dpkg 1.18.5). The currently accepted values are: auto (default), always and never.

DPKG_NLS

If set, it will be used to decide whether to activate Native Language Support, also known as internationalization (or i18n) support (since dpkg 1.22.7). The accepted

values are: 0 and 1 (default).

FILES

`/var/lib/dpkg/diversions`

File which contains the current list of diversions of the system. It is located in the `dpkg` administration directory, along with other files important to `dpkg`, such as `status` or `available`.

Note: `dpkg-divert` preserves the old copy of this file, with extension `-old`, before replacing it with the new one.

NOTES

When adding, default is `--local` and `--divert original.distrib`. When removing, `--package` or `--local` and `--divert` must match if specified.

Directories can't be diverted with `dpkg-divert`.

Care should be taken when diverting shared libraries, `ldconfig(8)` creates a symbolic link based on the `DT_SONAME` field embedded in the library. Because `ldconfig` does not honor diversions (only `dpkg` does), the symlink may end up pointing at the diverted library, if a diverted library has the same `SONAME` as the undiverted one.

EXAMPLES

To divert all copies of a `/usr/bin/example` to `/usr/bin/example.foo`, i.e. directs all packages providing `/usr/bin/example` to install it as `/usr/bin/example.foo`, performing the rename if required:

```
dpkg-divert --divert /usr/bin/example.foo --rename /usr/bin/example
```

To remove that diversion:

```
dpkg-divert --rename --remove /usr/bin/example
```

To divert any package trying to install `/usr/bin/example` to `/usr/bin/example.foo`, except your own `wibble` package:

```
dpkg-divert --package wibble --divert /usr/bin/example.foo \  
--rename /usr/bin/example
```

To remove that diversion:

```
dpkg-divert --package wibble --rename --remove /usr/bin/example
```

SEE ALSO

`dpkg(1)`.