



Linux Ubuntu 26.04 Manual Pages on command 'gnuln.1'

\$ man gnuln.1

LN(1) User Commands LN(1)

NAME

ln - make links between files

SYNOPSIS

ln [OPTION]... [-T] TARGET LINK_NAME

ln [OPTION]... TARGET

ln [OPTION]... TARGET... DIRECTORY

ln [OPTION]... -t DIRECTORY TARGET...

DESCRIPTION

In the 1st form, create a link to TARGET with the name LINK_NAME. In the 2nd form, create a link to TARGET in the current directory. In the 3rd and 4th forms, create links to each TARGET in DIRECTORY. Create hard links by default, symbolic links with --symbolic. By default, each destination (name of new link) should not already exist. When creating hard links, each TARGET must exist. Symbolic links can hold arbitrary text; if later resolved, a relative link is interpreted in relation to its parent directory.

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

--backup[=CONTROL]

make a backup of each existing destination file

-b like --backup but does not accept an argument

-d, -F, --directory

allow the superuser to attempt to hard link directories (this will probably fail due to system restrictions, even for the superuser)

-f, --force

remove existing destination files

-i, --interactive

prompt whether to remove destinations

-L, --logical

dereference TARGETs that are symbolic links

-n, --no-dereference

treat LINK_NAME as a normal file if it is a symbolic link to a directory

-P, --physical

make hard links directly to symbolic links

-r, --relative

with -s, create links relative to link location

-s, --symbolic

make symbolic links instead of hard links

-S, --suffix=SUFFIX

override the usual backup suffix

-t, --target-directory=DIRECTORY

specify the DIRECTORY in which to create the links

-T, --no-target-directory

treat LINK_NAME as a normal file always

-v, --verbose

print name of each linked file

--help display this help and exit

--version

output version information and exit

The backup suffix is '~', unless set with --suffix or SIMPLE_BACKUP_SUFFIX. The version

control method may be selected via the --backup option or through the VERSION_CONTROL envi?

ronment variable. Here are the values:

none, off

never make backups (even if --backup is given)

numbered, t

make numbered backups

existing, nil

numbered if numbered backups exist, simple otherwise

simple, never

always make simple backups

Using -s ignores -L and -P. Otherwise, the last option specified controls behavior when a TARGET is a symbolic link, defaulting to -P.

AUTHOR

Written by Mike Parker and David MacKenzie.

REPORTING BUGS

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

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

SEE ALSO

link(2), symlink(2)

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

or available locally via: info '(coreutils) ln invocation'

Packaged by Ubuntu (9.7-3ubuntu2)

Copyright ? 2025 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.

GNU coreutils 9.7

January 2026

LN(1)