



## ***Linux Ubuntu 26.04 Manual Pages on command 'rm.1'***

**\$ man rm.1**

RM(1) User Commands RM(1)

### NAME

rm - remove files or directories

### SYNOPSIS

rm [OPTION]... [FILE]...

### DESCRIPTION

This manual page documents the GNU version of rm. rm removes each specified file. By default, it does not remove directories.

If the -I or --interactive=once option is given, and there are more than three files or the -r, -R, or --recursive are given, then rm prompts the user for whether to proceed with the entire operation. If the response is not affirmative, the entire command is aborted.

Otherwise, if a file is unwritable, standard input is a terminal, and the -f or --force option is not given, or the -i or --interactive=always option is given, rm prompts the user for whether to remove the file. If the response is not affirmative, the file is skipped.

### OPTIONS

Remove (unlink) the FILE(s).

-f, --force

ignore nonexistent files and arguments, never prompt

-i prompt before every removal

-I prompt once before removing more than three files, or when removing recursively; less intrusive than -i, while still giving protection against most mistakes

--interactive[=WHEN]

prompt according to WHEN: never, once (-I), or always (-i); without WHEN, prompt always

ways

`--one-file-system`

when removing a hierarchy recursively, skip any directory that is on a file system different from that of the corresponding command line argument

`--no-preserve-root`

do not treat '/' specially

`--preserve-root[=all]`

do not remove '/' (default); with 'all', reject any command line argument on a separate device from its parent

`-r, -R, --recursive`

remove directories and their contents recursively

`-d, --dir`

remove empty directories

`-v, --verbose`

explain what is being done

`--help` display this help and exit

`--version`

output version information and exit

By default, `rm` does not remove directories. Use the `--recursive` (`-r` or `-R`) option to remove each listed directory, too, along with all of its contents.

Any attempt to remove a file whose last file name component is '.' or '..' is rejected with a diagnostic.

To remove a file whose name starts with a '-', for example '-foo', use one of these commands:

```
rm -- -foo
```

```
rm ./-foo
```

If you use `rm` to remove a file, it might be possible to recover some of its contents, given sufficient expertise and/or time. For greater assurance that the contents are unrecoverable, consider using `shred(1)`.

## AUTHOR

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## REPORTING BUGS

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

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

#### SEE ALSO

unlink(1), unlink(2), chattr(1), shred(1)

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

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

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