

NAME

cmp – compare two files byte by byte

SYNOPSIS

cmp [*OPTION*]... *FILE1* [*FILE2* [*SKIP1* [*SKIP2*]]]

DESCRIPTION

Compare two files byte by byte.

The optional *SKIP1* and *SKIP2* specify the number of bytes to skip at the beginning of each file (zero by default).

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

-b, --print-bytes

print differing bytes

-i, --ignore-initial=SKIP

skip first *SKIP* bytes of both inputs

-i, --ignore-initial=SKIP1:SKIP2

skip first *SKIP1* bytes of *FILE1* and first *SKIP2* bytes of *FILE2*

-l, --verbose

output byte numbers and differing byte values

-n, --bytes=LIMIT

compare at most *LIMIT* bytes

-s, --quiet, --silent

suppress all normal output

--help display this help and exit

-v, --version

output version information and exit

SKIP values may be followed by the following multiplicative suffixes: kB 1000, K 1024, MB 1,000,000, M 1,048,576, GB 1,000,000,000, G 1,073,741,824, and so on for T, P, E, Z, Y.

If a *FILE* is '-' or missing, read standard input. Exit status is 0 if inputs are the same, 1 if different, 2 if trouble.

AUTHOR

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REPORTING BUGS

Report bugs to: bug-diffutils@gnu.org

GNU diffutils home page: <https://www.gnu.org/software/diffutils/>

General help using GNU software: <https://www.gnu.org/gethelp/>

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SEE ALSO

diff(1), **diff3(1)**, **sdiff(1)**

The full documentation for **cmp** is maintained as a Texinfo manual. If the **info** and **cmp** programs are properly installed at your site, the command

info cmp

should give you access to the complete manual.