

**NAME**

env – run a program in a modified environment

**SYNOPSIS**

env [*OPTION*]... [-] [*NAME=VALUE*]... [*COMMAND* [*ARG*]...]

**DESCRIPTION**

Set each *NAME* to *VALUE* in the environment and run *COMMAND*.

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

**-i, --ignore-environment**

start with an empty environment

**-0, --null**

end each output line with NUL, not newline

**-u, --unset=NAME**

remove variable from the environment

**-C, --chdir=DIR**

change working directory to *DIR*

**-S, --split-string=S**

process and split *S* into separate arguments; used to pass multiple arguments on shebang lines

**--block-signal[=SIG]**

block delivery of *SIG* signal(s) to *COMMAND*

**--default-signal[=SIG]**

reset handling of *SIG* signal(s) to the default

**--ignore-signal[=SIG]**

set handling of *SIG* signal(s) to do nothing

**--list-signal-handling**

list non default signal handling to stderr

**-v, --debug**

print verbose information for each processing step

**--help** display this help and exit

**--version**

output version information and exit

A mere *-* implies **-i**. If no *COMMAND*, print the resulting environment.

*SIG* may be a signal name like 'PIPE', or a signal number like '13'. Without *SIG*, all known signals are included. Multiple signals can be comma-separated. An empty *SIG* argument is a no-op.

**Exit status:**

- 125 if the env command itself fails
- 126 if *COMMAND* is found but cannot be invoked
- 127 if *COMMAND* cannot be found
- the exit status of *COMMAND* otherwise

**OPTIONS****-S/--split-string usage in scripts**

The **-S** option allows specifying multiple parameters in a script. Running a script named **1.pl** containing the following first line:

```
#!/usr/bin/env -S perl -w -T
...
```

Will execute **perl -w -T 1.pl**.

Without the **'-S'** parameter the script will likely fail with:

```
/usr/bin/env: `perl -w -T': No such file or directory
```

See the full documentation for more details.

#### **--default-signal[=SIG] usage**

This option allows setting a signal handler to its default action, which is not possible using the traditional shell trap command. The following example ensures that `seq` will be terminated by `SIGPIPE` no matter how this signal is being handled in the process invoking the command.

```
sh -c 'env --default-signal=PIPE seq inf | head -n1'
```

## **NOTES**

POSIX's **exec(3p)** pages says:

"many existing applications wrongly assume that they start with certain signals set to the default action and/or unblocked.... Therefore, it is best not to block or ignore signals across execs without explicit reason to do so, and especially not to block signals across execs of arbitrary (not closely cooperating) programs."

## **AUTHOR**

Written by Richard Mlynarik, David MacKenzie, and Assaf Gordon.

## **REPORTING BUGS**

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

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

## **COPYRIGHT**

Copyright © 2023 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.

## **SEE ALSO**

**sigaction(2)**, **sigprocmask(2)**, **signal(7)**

Full documentation <<https://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/env>>  
or available locally via: `info '(coreutils) env invocation'`