NAME

mkfs − build a Linux filesystem

SYNOPSIS

mkfs [options] [**−t** *type*] [*fs−options*] *device* [*size*]

DESCRIPTION

This mkfs frontend is deprecated in favour of filesystem specific mkfs.<type> utils.

mkfs is used to build a Linux filesystem on a device, usually a hard disk partition. The *device* argument is either the device name (e.g., */dev/hda1*, */dev/sdb2*), or a regular file that shall contain the filesystem. The *size* argument is the number of blocks to be used for the filesystem.

The exit status returned by **mkfs** is 0 on success and 1 on failure.

In actuality, **mkfs** is simply a front−end for the various filesystem builders (**mkfs.***fstype*) available under Linux. The filesystem−specific builder is searched for via your **PATH** environment setting only. Please see the filesystem−specific builder manual pages for further details.

OPTIONS

−t, **−−type** *type*

Specify the *type* of filesystem to be built. If not specified, the default filesystem type (currently ext2) is used.

fs−options

Filesystem−specific options to be passed to the real filesystem builder.

−V, **−−verbose**

Produce verbose output, including all filesystem−specific commands that are executed. Specifying this option more than once inhibits execution of any filesystem−specific commands. This is really only useful for testing.

−h, **−−help**

Display help text and exit.

−V, **−−version**

Print version and exit. (Option **−V** will display version information only when it is the only parameter, otherwise it will work as **−−verbose**.)

BUGS

All generic options must precede and not be combined with filesystem−specific options. Some filesystem−specific programs do not automatically detect the device size and require the *size* parameter to be specified.

AUTHORS

David Engel <david@ods.com>, Fred N. van Kempen <waltje@uwalt.nl.mugnet.org>, Ron Sommeling <sommel@sci.kun.nl>.

The manual page was shamelessly adapted from Remy Card's version for the ext2 filesystem.

SEE ALSO

fs(5), **badblocks**(8), **fsck**(8), **mkdosfs**(8), **mke2fs**(8), **mkfs.bfs**(8), **mkfs.ext2**(8), **mkfs.ext3**(8), **mkfs.ext4**(8), **mkfs.minix**(8), **mkfs.msdos**(8), **mkfs.vfat**(8), **mkfs.xfs**(8)

REPORTING BUGS

For bug reports, use the issue tracker at https://github.com/util−linux/util−linux/issues.

AVAILABILITY

The **mkfs** command is part of the util−linux package which can be downloaded from Linux Kernel Archive <https://www.kernel.org/pub/linux/utils/util−linux/>.