Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'rm.1' command

$ 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=al?

    ways 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 re?

        moving 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

--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.

To remove a file whose name starts with a '-', for example '-foo', use

one of these commands:

    rm -- -foo

    rm ./-foo

Note that if you use rm to remove a file, it might be possible to re‐

cover some of its contents, given sufficient expertise and/or time.

For greater assurance that the contents are truly unrecoverable, con‐

sider using shred.

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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/>

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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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