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Rocky Enterprise Linux 9.2 Manual Pages on command 'lua.1'

\$ man lua.1

LUA(1) General Commands Manual LUA(1)

NAME

lua - Lua interpreter

SYNOPSIS

lua [options] [script [args]]

DESCRIPTION

lua is the standalone Lua interpreter. It loads and executes Lua programs, either in textual source form or in precompiled binary form.

(Precompiled binaries are output by luac, the Lua compiler.) lua can be used as a batch interpreter and also interactively.

After handling the options, the Lua program in file script is loaded and executed. The args are available to script as strings in a global table named arg and also as arguments to its main function. When called without arguments, lua behaves as lua -v -i if the standard input is a terminal, and as lua - otherwise.

In interactive mode, lua prompts the user, reads lines from the standard input, and executes them as they are read. If the line contains an expression, then the line is evaluated and the result is printed.

If a line does not contain a complete statement, then a secondary prompt is displayed and lines are read until a complete statement is formed or a syntax error is found.

Before handling command line options and scripts, lua checks the contents of the environment variables `LUA_INIT_5_4` and `LUA_INIT`, in that order. If the contents are of the form '@filename', then filename is executed. Otherwise, the contents are assumed to be a Lua statement and is executed. When `LUA_INIT_5_4` is defined, `LUA_INIT` is ignored.

OPTIONS

- e stat
execute statement stat.
- i enter interactive mode after executing script.
- l name
require library name into global name.
- v show version information.
- E ignore environment variables.
- W turn warnings on.
- stop handling options.
- stop handling options and execute the standard input as a file.

ENVIRONMENT VARIABLES

The following environment variables affect the execution of lua. When defined, the version-specific variants take priority and the version-neutral variants are ignored.

`LUA_INIT`, `LUA_INIT_5_4`

Code to be executed before command line options and scripts.

`LUA_PATH`, `LUA_PATH_5_4`

Initial value of `package.cpath`, the path used by `require` to search for Lua loaders.

`LUA_CPATH`, `LUA_CPATH_5_4`

Initial value of `package.cpath`, the path used by `require` to search for C loaders.

EXIT STATUS

If a script calls `os.exit`, then lua exits with the given exit status.

Otherwise, lua exits with EXIT_SUCCESS (0 on POSIX systems) if there were no errors and with EXIT_FAILURE (1 on POSIX systems) if there were errors. Errors raised in interactive mode do not cause exits.

DIAGNOSTICS

Error messages should be self explanatory.

SEE ALSO

luac(1)

The documentation at lua.org, especially section 7 of the reference manual.

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