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### ***Rocky Enterprise Linux 9.2 Manual Pages on command 'mcookie.1'***

**\$ man mcookie.1**

MCOOKIE(1) User Commands MCOOKIE(1)

#### NAME

mcookie - generate magic cookies for xauth

#### SYNOPSIS

mcookie [options]

#### DESCRIPTION

mcookie generates a 128-bit random hexadecimal number for use with the X authority system. Typical usage:

```
xauth add :0 . mcookie
```

The "random" number generated is actually the MD5 message digest of random information coming from one of the sources `getrandom(2)` system call, `/dev/urandom`, `/dev/random`, or the libc pseudo-random functions, in this preference order. See also the option `--file`.

#### OPTIONS

`-f, --file file`

Use this file as an additional source of randomness (for example `/dev/urandom`). When file is '-', characters are read from standard input.

-m, --max-size number

Read from file only this number of bytes. This option is meant to be used when reading additional randomness from a file or device.

The number argument may be followed by the multiplicative suffixes KiB=1024, MiB=1024\*1024, and so on for GiB, TiB, PiB, EiB, ZiB and YiB (the "iB" is optional, e.g., "K" has the same meaning as "KiB") or the suffixes KB=1000, MB=1000\*1000, and so on for GB, TB, PB, EB, ZB and YB.

-v, --verbose

Inform where randomness originated, with amount of entropy read from each source.

-V, --version

Display version information and exit.

-h, --help

Display help text and exit.

## FILES

/dev/urandom

/dev/random

## BUGS

It is assumed that none of the randomness sources will block.

## SEE ALSO

md5sum(1), X(7), xauth(1), rand(3)

## REPORTING BUGS

For bug reports, use the issue tracker at

<https://github.com/karelzak/util-linux/issues>.

## AVAILABILITY

The mcookie 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/>>.

util-linux 2.37.4

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MCOOKIE(1)