

**NAME**

Test::Lintian::Helper -- Helper functions for various testing parts

**SYNOPSIS**

```
use Test::Lintian::Helper qw(get_latest_policy);
my $policy_version = get_latest_policy();
```

**DESCRIPTION**

Helper functions for preparing and running Lintian tests.

**FUNCTIONS****cache\_dpkg\_architecture\_values()**

Ensures that the output from dpkg-architecture has been cached.

**get\_latest\_policy()**

Returns a list with two elements. The first is the most recent version of the Debian policy. The second is its effective date.

**get\_recommended\_debhelper\_version()**

Returns the version of debhelper recommended in 'debhelper/compat-level' via Lintian::Data, relative to the established LINTIAN\_ROOT.

**get\_required\_debhelper\_version()**

Returns the version of debhelper required in the file 'debian/control' relative to the established LINTIAN\_ROOT. The return value is the exact string, which can include characters like a tilde.

**copy\_dir\_contents(SRC\_DIR, TARGET\_DIR)**

Populates TARGET\_DIR with files/dirs from SRC\_DIR, preserving all attributes but dereferencing links. For an empty directory, no dummy file is required.

**rfc822date(EPOCH)**

Returns a string with the date and time described by EPOCH, formatted according to RFC822.