

**NAME**

**captainfo** – convert a *termcap* description into a *terminfo* description

**SYNOPSIS**

**captainfo** [*-vn width*] [*-V*] [*-1*] [*-w width*] *file* ...

**DESCRIPTION**

**captainfo** looks in each given text *file* for **termcap** descriptions. For each one found, an equivalent **terminfo** description is written to standard output. Termcap **tc** capabilities are translated directly to terminfo **use** capabilities.

If no *file* is given, then the environment variable **TERMCAP** is used for the filename or entry. If **TERMCAP** is a full pathname to a file, only the terminal whose name is specified in the environment variable **TERM** is extracted from that file. If the environment variable **TERMCAP** is not set, then the file **/etc/terminfo** is read.

- v** print out tracing information on standard error as the program runs.
- V** print out the version of the program in use on standard error and exit.
- 1** cause the fields to print out one to a line. Otherwise, the fields will be printed several to a line to a maximum width of 60 characters.
- w** change the output to *width* characters.

**FILES**

*/etc/terminfo*                      Compiled terminal description database.

**TRANSLATIONS FROM NONSTANDARD CAPABILITIES**

Some obsolete nonstandard capabilities will automatically be translated into standard (SVr4/XSI Curses) terminfo capabilities by **captainfo**. Whenever one of these automatic translations is done, the program will issue an notification to stderr, inviting the user to check that it has not mistakenly translated a completely unknown and random capability and/or syntax error.

Nonstd name	Std name	From	Terminfo capability
BO	mr	AT&T	enter_reverse_mode
CI	vi	AT&T	cursor_invisible
CV	ve	AT&T	cursor_normal
DS	mh	AT&T	enter_dim_mode
EE	me	AT&T	exit_attribute_mode
FE	LF	AT&T	label_on
FL	LO	AT&T	label_off
XS	mk	AT&T	enter_secure_mode
EN	@7	XENIX	key_end
GE	ae	XENIX	exit_alt_charset_mode
GS	as	XENIX	enter_alt_charset_mode
HM	kh	XENIX	key_home
LD	kL	XENIX	key_dl
PD	kN	XENIX	key_npage
PN	po	XENIX	prtr_off
PS	pf	XENIX	prtr_on
PU	kP	XENIX	key_ppage
RT	@8	XENIX	kent
UP	ku	XENIX	kcuu1
KA	k;	Tek	key_f10
KB	F1	Tek	key_f11
KC	F2	Tek	key_f12
KD	F3	Tek	key_f13

KE	F4	Tek	key_f14
KF	F5	Tek	key_f15
BC	Sb	Tek	set_background
FC	Sf	Tek	set_foreground
HS	mh	Iris	enter_dim_mode

XENIX termcap also used to have a set of extension capabilities for forms drawing, designed to take advantage of the IBM PC high-half graphics. They were as follows:

Cap	Graphic
G2	upper left
G3	lower left
G1	upper right
G4	lower right
GR	pointing right
GL	pointing left
GU	pointing up
GD	pointing down
GH	horizontal line
GV	vertical line
GC	intersection
G6	upper left
G7	lower left
G5	upper right
G8	lower right
Gr	tee pointing right
Gr	tee pointing left
Gu	tee pointing up
Gd	tee pointing down
Gh	horizontal line
Gv	vertical line
Gc	intersection
GG	acs magic cookie count

If the single-line capabilities occur in an entry, they will automatically be composed into an **acsc** string. The double-line capabilities and **GG** are discarded with a warning message.

IBM's AIX has a terminfo facility descended from SVr1 terminfo but incompatible with the SVr4 format. The following AIX extensions are automatically translated:

IBM	XSI
ksel	kslt
kbtabs	kcbt
font0	s0ds
font1	s1ds
font2	s2ds
font3	s3ds

Additionally, the AIX *boxl* capability will be automatically translated to an **acsc** string.

Hewlett-Packard's terminfo library supports two nonstandard terminfo capabilities **meml** (memory lock) and **memu** (memory unlock). These will be discarded with a warning message.

## NOTES

This utility is actually a link to **tic**(1), running in *-I* mode. You can use other **tic** options such as **-f** and **-x**.

The verbose option is not identical to SVr4's. Under SVr4, instead of following the **-v** with a trace level *n*, you repeat it *n* times.

**PORTABILITY**

X/Open Curses, Issue 7 (2009) describes **tic** briefly, but omits this program. SVr4 systems provide **captainfo** as a separate application from **tic**.

NetBSD does not provide this application.

**SEE ALSO**

**infocmp**(1), **ncurses**(3NCURSES), **terminfo**(5)

This describes **ncurses** version 6.2 (patch 20200212).

**AUTHOR**

Eric S. Raymond <esr@snark.thyrsus.com> and  
Thomas E. Dickey <dickey@invisible-island.net>