

NAME

GNU `cmp` – compare two files byte by byte

SYNOPSIS

cmp [*OPTION*]... *FILE1* [*FILE2* [*SKIP1* [*SKIP2*]]]

DESCRIPTION

Compare two files byte by byte.

The optional `SKIP1` and `SKIP2` specify the number of bytes to skip at the beginning of each file (zero by default).

Mandatory arguments to long options are mandatory for short options too.

-b, --print-bytes

print differing bytes

-i, --ignore-initial=SKIP

skip first `SKIP` bytes of both inputs

-i, --ignore-initial=SKIP1:SKIP2

skip first `SKIP1` bytes of `FILE1` and first `SKIP2` bytes of `FILE2`

-l, --verbose

output byte numbers and differing byte values

-n, --bytes=LIMIT

compare at most `LIMIT` bytes

-s, --quiet, --silent

suppress all normal output

--help display this help and exit

-v, --version

output version information and exit

`SKIP` values may be followed by the following multiplicative suffixes: `kB` 1000, `K` 1024, `MB` 1,000,000, `M` 1,048,576, `GB` 1,000,000,000, `G` 1,073,741,824, and so on for `T`, `P`, `E`, `Z`, `Y`.

If a `FILE` is `'-'` or missing, read standard input. Exit status is 0 if inputs are the same, 1 if different, 2 if trouble.

AUTHOR

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REPORTING BUGS

Report bugs to: bug-diffutils@gnu.org

GNU diffutils home page: <https://www.gnu.org/software/diffutils/>

General help using GNU software: <https://www.gnu.org/gethelp/>

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SEE ALSO

`diff(1)`, `diff3(1)`, `sdiff(1)`

The full documentation for **GNU** is maintained as a Texinfo manual. If the **info** and **GNU** programs are properly installed at your site, the command

info GNU

should give you access to the complete manual.