

**NAME**

dd – convert and copy a file

**SYNOPSIS**

**dd** [*OPERAND*]...

**dd** *OPTION*

**DESCRIPTION**

Copy a file, converting and formatting according to the operands.

**bs=BYTES**

read and write up to BYTES bytes at a time (default: 512); overrides **ibs** and **obs**

**cbs=BYTES**

convert BYTES bytes at a time

**conv=CONVS**

convert the file as per the comma separated symbol list

**count=N**

copy only N input blocks

**ibs=BYTES**

read up to BYTES bytes at a time (default: 512)

**if=FILE**

read from FILE instead of stdin

**iflag=FLAGS**

read as per the comma separated symbol list

**obs=BYTES**

write BYTES bytes at a time (default: 512)

**of=FILE**

write to FILE instead of stdout

**oflag=FLAGS**

write as per the comma separated symbol list

**seek=N** skip N **obs**-sized blocks at start of output

**skip=N** skip N **ibs**-sized blocks at start of input

**status=LEVEL**

The **LEVEL** of information to print to stderr; 'none' suppresses everything but error messages, 'noxfers' suppresses the final transfer statistics, 'progress' shows periodic transfer statistics

**N** and **BYTES** may be followed by the following multiplicative suffixes: **c** =1, **w** =2, **b** =512, **kB** =1000, **K** =1024, **MB** =1000\*1000, **M** =1024\*1024, **xM** =M, **GB** =1000\*1000\*1000, **G** =1024\*1024\*1024, and so on for **T**, **P**, **E**, **Z**, **Y**.

Each **CONV** symbol may be:

**ascii** from EBCDIC to ASCII

**ebcdic** from ASCII to EBCDIC

**ibm** from ASCII to alternate EBCDIC

**block** pad newline-terminated records with spaces to **cbs**-size

**unblock**

replace trailing spaces in **cbs**-size records with newline

**lcase** change upper case to lower case

**ucase** change lower case to upper case

sparse try to seek rather than write the output for NUL input blocks

swab swap every pair of input bytes

sync pad every input block with NULs to `ibs=size`; when used with `block` or `unblock`, pad with spaces rather than NULs

excl fail if the output file already exists

nocreat do not create the output file

notrunc do not truncate the output file

noerror continue after read errors

fdatasync  
physically write output file data before finishing

fsync likewise, but also write metadata

Each FLAG symbol may be:

append append mode (makes sense only for output; `conv=notrunc` suggested)

direct use direct I/O for data

directory  
fail unless a directory

dsync use synchronized I/O for data

sync likewise, but also for metadata

fullblock  
accumulate full blocks of input (`iflag` only)

nonblock  
use non-blocking I/O

noatime  
do not update access time

nocache  
Request to drop cache. See also `oflag=sync`

noctty do not assign controlling terminal from file

nofollow  
do not follow symlinks

count\_bytes  
treat `'count=N'` as a byte count (`iflag` only)

skip\_bytes  
treat `'skip=N'` as a byte count (`iflag` only)

seek\_bytes  
treat `'seek=N'` as a byte count (`oflag` only)

Sending a USR1 signal to a running `'dd'` process makes it print I/O statistics to standard error and then resume copying.

Options are:

**--help** display this help and exit

**--version**  
output version information and exit

**AUTHOR**

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**REPORTING BUGS**

GNU coreutils online help: <<https://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/>>

Report dd translation bugs to <<https://translationproject.org/team/>>

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**SEE ALSO**

Full documentation at: <<https://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/dd>>  
or available locally via: info '(coreutils) dd invocation'