

**NAME**

ispell-wrapper – smart wrapper for ispell

**SYNOPSIS**

```
ispell-wrapper [--emacs=name] [--language=regexp] [--dry-run] [ispell options] file
```

Options (all long only options):

```
--emacs=name          Set the language to use by emacs dict name
--language=regexp     Set the language to use by name
--dry-run             Only show what would have done
```

**DESCRIPTION**

**ispell-wrapper** is a wrapper script for ispell intended to be used in a Debian system in conjunction with the infrastructure introduced by the dictionaries-common package. Option `--dry-run` will show the string to be run without doing anything else.

It automatically sets the `-d`, `-w`, and `-T` options to ispell as a function of the chosen language. Of course, this only works for dictionary packages that comply with the above mentioned Policy.

Here is how the language is defined (in order of priority):

- 1) By matching the emacs dict name given in `--emacs` option to the name of one of the emacs dicts names provided by installed languages in the system. This match must be exact (although is case insensitive). Note that this will override any value given in the `--language` option.
- 2) By matching the regexp given in option `--language` to the list of installed languages in the system.
- 3) By matching the regexp stored in the environment variable `ISPELLDEFAULT` to the list of installed languages in the system.
- 4) By using the value stored in the user-specific file `~/.ispell-default` (use **select-default-iwrap** (1) to set it).
- 5) By using the value stored in the site-wide file `/etc/dictionaries-common/ispell-default` (use **select-default-ispell** (8) as superuser to set it).

Note: regexp matches are case-insensitive and the ISO-8859-1 special characters are transformed into their ASCII equivalents. German ess-zet is equivalent to the character “s” and the ae ligature to the character “e”.

**EXAMPLE**

Let us say that the following dictionaries are installed in the system (as appearing in the Debconf question at installation time):

```
castellano (Spanish TeX mode)
castellano8 (Spanish 8 bit)
português (European Portuguese)
português brasileiro (Brazilian Portuguese)
```

Choosing the regexp (either in the `--language` option or in the environment variable `ISPELLDEFAULT`) to be “span” will yield an error, since two languages will match (“castellano” and “castellano8”). However, if the regexp is “span.\*8”, the language “castellano8 (Spanish 8 bit)” will be chosen.

**ENVIRONMENT**

`ISPELLDEFAULT`

Regexp that matches the name of the default language to use, if no `--language` option is given.

**FILES**

`$HOME/.ispell-default`

Contains the name of the language to use, if no `--language` option is given or if the `ISPELLDEFAULT` environment variable is not set. This is a user-specific choice.

`/etc/dictionaries-common/ispell-default`

Name of the language to use when everything above is not set. This is a system-wide setting.

**SEE ALSO**

`select-default-ispell` (8), `select-default-iwrap` (1)

**AUTHORS**

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