NAME

locale – get locale-specific information

SYNOPSIS

locale [*option*]
locale [*option*] **–a**
locale [*option*] **–m**
locale [*option*] *name*...

DESCRIPTION

The **locale** command displays information about the current locale, or all locales, on standard output.

When invoked without arguments, **locale** displays the current locale settings for each locale category (see **locale**(5)), based on the settings of the environment variables that control the locale (see **locale**(7)). Values for variables set in the environment are printed without double quotes, implied values are printed with double quotes.

If either the **–a** or the **–m** option (or one of their long-format equivalents) is specified, the behavior is as follows:

–a, **––all–locales**
> Display a list of all available locales. The **-v** option causes the **LC_IDENTIFICATION** metadata about each locale to be included in the output.

–m, **––charmaps**
> Display the available charmaps (character set description files). To display the current character set for the locale, use **locale -c charmap**.

The **locale** command can also be provided with one or more arguments, which are the names of locale keywords (for example, *date_fmt*, *ctype-class-names*, *yesexpr*, or *decimal_point*) or locale categories (for example, **LC_CTYPE** or **LC_TIME**). For each argument, the following is displayed:

* For a locale keyword, the value of that keyword to be displayed.

* For a locale category, the values of all keywords in that category are displayed.

When arguments are supplied, the following options are meaningful:

–c, **––category–name**
> For a category name argument, write the name of the locale category on a separate line preceding the list of keyword values for that category.
>
> For a keyword name argument, write the name of the locale category for this keyword on a separate line preceding the keyword value.
>
> This option improves readability when multiple name arguments are specified. It can be combined with the **–k** option.

–k, **––keyword–name**
> For each keyword whose value is being displayed, include also the name of that keyword, so that the output has the format:
>
> *keyword*="*value*"

The **locale** command also knows about the following options:

–v, **––verbose**
> Display additional information for some command-line option and argument combinations.

–?, **––help**
> Display a summary of command-line options and arguments and exit.

––usage
> Display a short usage message and exit.

> **−V**, **−−version**
>> Display the program version and exit.

FILES

> */usr/lib/locale/locale-archive*
>> Usual default locale archive location.

> */usr/share/i18n/locales*
>> Usual default path for locale definition files.

CONFORMING TO

> POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008.

EXAMPLE

```
$ locale
LANG=en_US.UTF-8
LC_CTYPE="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_NUMERIC="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_TIME="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_COLLATE="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_MONETARY="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_MESSAGES="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_PAPER="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_NAME="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_ADDRESS="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_TELEPHONE="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_MEASUREMENT="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_IDENTIFICATION="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_ALL=

$ locale date_fmt
%a %b %e %H:%M:%S %Z %Y

$ locale -k date_fmt
date_fmt="%a %b %e %H:%M:%S %Z %Y"

$ locale -ck date_fmt
LC_TIME
date_fmt="%a %b %e %H:%M:%S %Z %Y"

$ locale LC_TELEPHONE
+%c (%a) %l
(%a) %l
11
1
UTF-8

$ locale -k LC_TELEPHONE
tel_int_fmt="+%c (%a) %l"
tel_dom_fmt="(%a) %l"
int_select="11"
int_prefix="1"
telephone-codeset="UTF-8"
```

> The following example compiles a custom locale from the *./wrk* directory with the **localedef**(1) utility under the *$HOME/.locale* directory, then tests the result with the **date**(1) command, and then sets the environment variables **LOCPATH** and **LANG** in the shell profile file so that the custom locale will be used in the

subsequent user sessions:

```
$ mkdir -p $HOME/.locale
$ I18NPATH=./wrk/ localedef -f UTF-8 -i fi_SE $HOME/.locale/fi_SE.UTF-8
$ LOCPATH=$HOME/.locale LC_ALL=fi_SE.UTF-8 date
$ echo "export LOCPATH=\$HOME/.locale" >> $HOME/.bashrc
$ echo "export LANG=fi_SE.UTF-8" >> $HOME/.bashrc
```

SEE ALSO

localedef(1), **charmap**(5), **locale**(5), **locale**(7)

COLOPHON

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