

**NAME**

parsechangelog – parse Debian changelogs and output them in other formats

**SYNOPSIS**

```
parsechangelog [options] [changelogfile]
```

## Options:

<code>--help, -h</code>	print usage information
<code>--version, -V</code>	print version information
<code>--file, -l &lt;file&gt;</code>	changelog file to parse, defaults to 'debian/changelog'
<code>-F&lt;changelogformat&gt;</code>	ignored if changelogformat = 'debian' for compatibility with dpkg-dev
<code>-L&lt;libdir&gt;</code>	ignored for compatibility with dpkg-dev
<code>--format &lt;outputformat&gt;</code>	see man page for list of available output formats, defaults to 'dpkg' for compatibility with dpkg-dev
<code>--since, -s, -v &lt;version&gt;</code>	include all changes later than version
<code>--until, -u &lt;version&gt;</code>	include all changes earlier than version
<code>--from, -f &lt;version&gt;</code>	include all changes equal or later than version
<code>--to, -t &lt;version&gt;</code>	include all changes up to or equal than version
<code>--count, -c, -n &lt;number&gt;</code>	include <number> entries from the top (or the tail if <number> is lower than 0)
<code>--offset, -o &lt;number&gt;</code>	change the starting point for --count, counted from the top (or the tail if <number> is lower than 0)
<code>--all</code>	include all changes

If neither changelogfile nor `-l <file>` are specified, *debian/changelog* will be used. If two different files are specified the program will abort.

If the filename is `-` the program reads the changelog from standard input.

`--all` overrides all other range selecting options. `--count` overrides all other range selection options except for `--all`. The range selecting options can be mixed together, but only one of `--since` and `--from` and one of `--until` and `--to` can be specified at the same time.

The `dpkg` and `rfc822` formats default to showing only the first entry when no other options are given with while the `HTML` and `XML` formats default to showing all entries.

For a more extensive documentation of the range selecting options and some (hopefully enlightening) examples see “COMMON OUTPUT OPTIONS” in `Parse::DebianChangelog`.

**DESCRIPTION**

parsechangelog parses Debian changelogs as described in the Debian policy (version 3.9.8 at the time of this writing) and converts them to other output formats. See section “SEE ALSO” for locations where to find the full format definition.

The output formats supported are currently:

**dpkg**

Format as known from `dpkg-parsechangelog` (1). All requested entries (see “SYNOPSIS” on how to select specific entries) are returned in the usual Debian control format, merged in one stanza, ready to be used in a *.changes* file.

**rfc822**

Similar to the `dpkg` format, but the requested entries are returned as one stanza each, i.e. they are not merged. This is probably the format to use if you want a machine-usable representation of the changelog.

**xml**

Just a simple XML dump of the changelog data. Without any schema or DTD currently, just some made up XML. The actual format might still change. Comments and Improvements welcome.

**html**

The changelog is converted to a somewhat nice looking HTML file with some nice features as a quick-link bar with direct links to every entry. NOTE: This is not configurable yet and was specifically designed to be used on <http://packages.debian.org/>. This is planned to be changed until version 1.0. The used Parse::DebianChangelog module already supports configuration, however, this isn't exposed by this program yet.

**BUGS**

Any version given with `--since`, `--until`, `--from`, or `--to` must exist in the changelogfile, else `parsechangelog` will a wrong result or even abort with an error message. See <https://bugs.debian.org/576606>

**SEE ALSO**

Parse::DebianChangelog, the underlying Perl module

Description of the Debian changelog format in the Debian policy: <http://www.debian.org/doc/debian-policy/ch-source.html#s-dpkgchangelog>.

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