

**NAME**

`word-list-compress` – word list compressor/decompressor for GNU Aspell

**SYNOPSIS**

`word-list-compress c[ompress] | d[ecompress]`

**DESCRIPTION**

`word-list-compress` compresses or decompresses sorted word lists for use with the GNU Aspell spell checker.

**COMMANDS**

**-c, c, compress**

compress the plain text word list read from standard input.

**-d, d, decompress**

decompress the compressed word list read from standard input.

**EXAMPLES**

Here are a few examples of how you can use `word-list-compress`

```
word-list-compress d <wordlist.cwl >wordlist.txt
```

Decompress file `wordlist.cwl` to text file `wordlist.txt`

```
word-list-compress c <wordlist.wl >wordlist.cwl 2>errors.txt
```

Compress `wordlist.wl` to `wordlist.cwl` and send any error messages to a text file named `errors.txt`

```
LC_COLLATE=C sort -u <wordlist.txt | word-list-compress c >wordlist.cwl
```

Sort a word list, then pipe it to `word-list-compress` to create a compressed binary `wordlist.cwl` file.

```
word-list-compress d <words.cwl | aspell create master ./words.rws
```

Decompress a wordlist, then pipe it to `aspell(1)` to create a spelling list. Please check the `aspell(1)` info manual for proper usage and options.

**TIPS**

`Word-list-compress` is best used with sorted word list type files. It is not a general purpose compression program since the resulting files may actually increase in size.

`Word-list-compress` accepts up to 255 text characters in the range of {0x21...0xFF}. If your word list requires a larger character set for certain languages or longer length for multi-word, scientific, medical, technical or other use, then it is recommended that you compress your word list using `prezip-bin(1)`

**DIAGNOSTICS**

`Word-list-compress` normally exits with a return code of 0. If it encounters an error, a message is sent to standard error output (`stderr`), and `word-list-compress` exits with a non-zero return value. Error messages are listed below:

**(display help/usage message)**

Unknown command given on the command line so `word-list-compress` displays a usage message to standard error output.

**Corrupt Input**

This is only for the decompression command `d`. The input file is of an unknown format or the input file/stream is corrupted. You may have some valid output, but `word-list-compress` could not complete the process. If the input file is a compressed wordlist but you have no output file, then it may be a newer `prezip-bin(1)` version of compressed file, if so, try decompressing the file with `prezip-bin(1)` instead.

**Output Data Error**

The output is full, write protected, or has an error and can no longer be written to.

**SEE ALSO**

`aspell(1)`, `aspell-import(1)`, `prezip-bin(1)`, `run-with-aspell(1)`

Aspell is fully documented in its Texinfo manual. See the '`aspell`' entry in `info` for more complete

documentation.

**REPORTING BUGS**

For help, see the Aspell homepage at <<http://aspell.net>> and send bug reports/comments to the Aspell user list at the above address.

**AUTHOR**

This manual page was written by Aaron Lehmann <[aaronl@vitelus.com](mailto:aaronl@vitelus.com)>, Brian Nelson <[pyro@debian.org](mailto:pyro@debian.org)> and Jose Da Silva <[digital@joescat.com](mailto:digital@joescat.com)>.