

NAME

date — print or set the system date and time

SYNOPSIS

date [*OPTION*]... [*+FORMAT*]

date [-u/--utc/--universal] [*MMDDhhmm*[[*CC*]*YY*][*.ss*]]

DESCRIPTION

Display the current time in the given *FORMAT*, or set the system date.

—**d**, —**date**=*STRING*

display time described by *STRING*, not ‘now’

—**f**, —**file**=*DATEFILE*

like —**date** once for each line of *DATEFILE*

—**r**, —**reference**=*FILE*

display the last modification time of *FILE*

—**R**, —**rfc**—**2822**

output date and time in RFC 2822 format

—**rfc**—**3339**=*TIMESPEC*

output date and time in RFC 3339 format. *TIMESPEC*=‘date’, ‘seconds’, or ‘ns’ for date and time to the indicated precision.

—**s**, —**set**=*STRING*

set time described by *STRING*

—**u**, —**utc**, —**universal**

print or set Coordinated Universal Time

—**help**

display this help and exit

—**version**

output version information and exit

FORMAT controls the output. The only valid option for the second form specifies Coordinated Universal Time. Interpreted sequences are:

%% a literal %

%a locale’s abbreviated weekday name (e.g., Sun)

%A locale’s full weekday name (e.g., Sunday)

%b locale’s abbreviated month name (e.g., Jan)

%B locale’s full month name (e.g., January)

%c locale’s date and time (e.g., Thu Mar 3 23:05:25 2005)

%C century; like %Y, except omit last two digits (e.g., 21)

%d day of month (e.g, 01)

%D date; same as %m/%d/%y

%e day of month, space padded; same as %_d

%F full date; same as %Y-%m-%d

%g last two digits of year of ISO week number (see %G)

%G year of ISO week number (see %V); normally useful only with %V

%h same as %b

%H hour (00..23)

%I	hour (01..12)
%j	day of year (001..366)
%k	hour (0..23)
%l	hour (1..12)
%m	month (01..12)
%M	minute (00..59)
%n	a newline
%N	nanoseconds (000000000..999999999)
%p	locale's equivalent of either AM or PM; blank if not known
%P	like %p, but lower case
%r	locale's 12-hour clock time (e.g., 11:11:04 PM)
%R	24-hour hour and minute; same as %H:%M
%s	seconds since 1970-01-01 00:00:00 UTC
%S	second (00..60)
%t	a tab
%T	time; same as %H:%M:%S
%u	day of week (1..7); 1 is Monday
%U	week number of year, with Sunday as first day of week (00..53)
%V	ISO week number, with Monday as first day of week (01..53)
%w	day of week (0..6); 0 is Sunday
%W	week number of year, with Monday as first day of week (00..53)
%x	locale's date representation (e.g., 12/31/99)
%X	locale's time representation (e.g., 23:13:48)
%y	last two digits of year (00..99)
%Y	year
%z	+hhmm numeric timezone (e.g., -0400)
%:z	+hh:mm numeric timezone (e.g., -04:00)
%::z	+hh:mm:ss numeric time zone (e.g., -04:00:00)
%:::z	numeric time zone with : to necessary precision (e.g., -04, +05:30)
%Z	alphabetic time zone abbreviation (e.g., EDT)

By default, date pads numeric fields with zeroes. The following optional flags may follow ‘%’:

- (hyphen) do not pad the field
- _ (underscore) pad with spaces
- 0 (zero) pad with zeros
- ^ use upper case if possible
- # use opposite case if possible

After any flags comes an optional field width, as a decimal number; then an optional modifier, which is either E to use the locale's alternate representations if available, or O to use the locale's alternate numeric symbols if available.

AUTHOR

Written by David MacKenzie.

REPORTING BUGS

Report bugs to <bug-coreutils@gnu.org>.

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SEE ALSO

The full documentation for **date** is maintained as a Texinfo manual. If the **info** and **date** programs are properly installed at your site, the command

info date

should give you access to the complete manual.