

NAME

echo - write arguments to the standard output

SYNOPSIS

echo [-n] [*string* ...]

DESCRIPTION

The **echo** utility writes any specified operands, separated by single blank (‘ ’) characters and followed by a newline (‘\n’) character, to the standard output.

The following option is available:

-n Do not print the trailing newline character.

The end-of-options marker **--** is not recognized and written literally.

The newline may also be suppressed by appending ‘\c’ to the end of the string, as is done by iBCS2 compatible systems. Note that the **-n** option as well as the effect of ‘\c’ are implementation-defined in IEEE Std 1003.1-2001 ("POSIX.1") as amended by Cor. 1-2002. For portability, **echo** should only be used if the first argument does not start with a hyphen (‘-’) and does not contain any backslashes (‘\’). If this is not sufficient, `printf(1)` should be used.

Most shells provide a builtin **echo** command which tends to differ from this utility in the treatment of options and backslashes. Consult the `builtin(1)` manual page.

EXIT STATUS

The **echo** utility exits 0 on success, and >0 if an error occurs.

SEE ALSO

`builtin(1)`, `csh(1)`, `printf(1)`, `sh(1)`

STANDARDS

The **echo** utility conforms to IEEE Std 1003.1-2001 ("POSIX.1") as amended by Cor. 1-2002.

HISTORY

The **echo** command appeared in Version 2 AT&T UNIX.