

Name

gdiffmk – mark differences between *groff/nroff/troff* files

Synopsis

gdiffmk [**-a** *add-mark*] [**-c** *change-mark*] [**-d** *delete-mark*] [**-x** *diff-command*] [**-D** [**-B**] [**-M** *mark1 mark2*]] [**--**] *file1 file2* [*output*]

gdiffmk --help

gdiffmk --version

Description

gdiffmk compares two *roff*(7) documents, *file1* and *file2*, and creates a *roff* document consisting of *file2* with added margin character (**.mc**) requests indicating output lines that differ from *file1*. If the *file1* or *file2* argument is “-”, *gdiffmk* reads the standard input stream for that input. If the *output* operand is present, *gdiffmk* writes output to a file of that name. If it is “-” or absent, *gdiffmk* writes output to the standard output stream. “-” cannot be both an input and output operand.

Options

--help displays a usage message and **--version** shows version information; both exit afterward.

-a *add-mark*

Use *add-mark* for source lines not in *file1* but present in *file2*. Default: “+”.

-B By default, the deleted texts marked by the **-D** option end with an added *roff* break request, **.br**, to ensure that the deletions are marked properly. This is the only way to guarantee that deletions and small changes get flagged. This option directs the program not to insert these breaks; it makes no sense to use it without **-D**.

-c *change-mark*

Use *change-mark* for changed source lines. Default: “|”.

-d *delete-mark*

Use the *delete-mark* for deleted source lines. Default: “*”.

-D Show the deleted portions from changed and deleted text.

-M *mark1 mark2*

Change the delimiting marks for the **-D** option. It makes no sense to use this option without **-D**. Default delimiting marks: “[” ... “]”.

-x *diff-command*

Use the *diff-command* command to perform the comparison of *file1* and *file2*. In particular, *diff-command* should accept the GNU *diff*(1) **-D** option. Default: **diff**.

-- Treat all subsequent arguments as file names, even if they begin with “-”.

Bugs

The output is not necessarily compatible with all macro packages and all preprocessors. A workaround that often overcomes preprocessor problems is to run *gdiffmk* on the output of all the preprocessors instead of the input source.

gdiffmk relies on the **-D** option of GNU *diff* to make a merged “**#ifdef**” output format. Busybox *diff* is known to not support it. Also see the **-x** *diff-command* option.

Authors

gdiffmk was written by Mike Bianchi (MBianchi@Foveal.com), now retired. It is maintained by the *groff* developers.

See also

groff(1), *nroff*(1), *gtroff*(1), *roff*(7), *diff*(1)