**Name**

nroff − format documents with *groff* for TTY (terminal) devices

**Synopsis**

**nroff** [**−bcCEhikpRStUVz**] [**−d** *ctext*] [**−d** *string=text*] [**−K** *fallback-encoding*] [**−m** *macro-package*]
[**−M** *macro-directory*] [**−n** *page-number*] [**−o** *page-list*] [**−P** *postprocessor-argument*]
[**−r** *cnumeric-expression*] [**−r** *register=numeric-expression*] [**−T** *output-device*] [**−w** *warning-category*] [**−W** *warning-category*] [*file . . .*]

**nroff −−help**

**nroff −v**
**nroff −−version**

**Description**

*nroff* formats documents written in the *groff* (7) language for typewriter-like devices such as terminal emulators. GNU *nroff* emulates the AT&T *nroff* command using *groff* (1). *nroff* generates output via *grotty*(1), *groff*'s terminal output driver, which needs to know the character encoding scheme used by the device. Consequently, acceptable arguments to the **−T** option are **ascii**, **latin1**, **utf8**, and **cp1047**; any others are ignored. If neither the *GROFF_TYPESETTER* environment variable nor the **−T** command-line option (which overrides the environment variable) specifies a (valid) device, *nroff* consults the locale to select an appropriate output device. It first tries the *locale*(1) program, then checks several locale-related environment variables; see section "Environment" below. If all of the foregoing fail, **−Tascii** is implied.

The **−b**, **−c**, **−C**, **−d**, **−E**, **−i**, **−m**, **−M**, **−n**, **−o**, **−r**, **−U**, **−w**, **−W**, and **−z** options have the effects described in *troff* (1). **−c** and **−h** imply "**−P−c**" and "**−P−h**", respectively; **−c** is also interpreted directly by *troff* . In addition, this implementation ignores the AT&T *nroff* options **−e**, **−q**, and **−s** (which are not implemented in *groff* ). The options **−k**, **−K**, **−p**, **−P**, **−R**, **−t**, and **−S** are documented in *groff* (1). **−V** causes *nroff* to display the constructed *groff* command on the standard output stream, but does not execute it. **−v** and **−−version** show version information about *nroff* and the programs it runs, while **−−help** displays a usage message; all exit afterward.

**Exit status**

*nroff* exits with error status **2** if there was a problem parsing its arguments, with status **0** if any of the options **−V**, **−v**, **−−version**, or **−−help** were specified, and with the status of *groff* otherwise.

**Environment**

Normally, the path separator in environment variables ending with *PATH* is the colon; this may vary depending on the operating system. For example, Windows uses a semicolon instead.

*GROFF_BIN_PATH*

is a colon-separated list of directories in which to search for the *groff* executable before searching in *PATH*. If unset, */usr/local/bin* is used.

*GROFF_TYPESETTER*

specifies the default output device for *groff* .

*LC_ALL*
*LC_CTYPE*
*LANG*
*LESSCHARSET*

are pattern-matched in this order for contents matching standard character encodings supported by *groff* in the event no **−T** option is given and *GROFF_TYPESETTER* is unset, or the values specified are invalid.

**Files**

*/usr/local/share/groff/1.23.0/tmac/tty−char.tmac*

defines fallback definitions of *roff* special characters. These definitions more poorly optically approximate typeset output than those of *tty.tmac* in favor of communicating semantic information. *nroff* loads it automatically.

**Notes**

       Pager programs like *more*(1) and *less*(1) may require command-line options to correctly handle some output sequences; see *grotty*(1).

**See also**

       *groff* (1), *troff* (1), *grotty*(1), *locale*(1), *roff* (7)