

NAME

tap – manipulate DECtape

SYNOPSIS

tap [*key*] [*name ...*]

DESCRIPTION

tap saves and restores selected portions of the file system hierarchy on DECtape. Its actions are controlled by the *key* argument. The key is a string of characters containing at most one function letter and possibly one or more function modifiers. Other arguments to the command are file or directory names specifying which files are to be dumped, restored, or tabled.

The function portion of the key is specified by one of the following letters:

- r** The indicated files and directories, together with all subdirectories, are dumped onto the tape. If files with the same names already exist, they are replaced. ‘Same’ is determined by string comparison, so ‘./abc’ can never be the same as ‘/usr/dmr/abc’ even if ‘/usr/dmr’ is the current directory. If no file argument is given, ‘.’ is the default.
- c** updates the tape. **u** is the same as **r**, but a file is replaced only if its modification date is later than the date stored on the tape; that is to say, if it has changed since it was dumped. **u** is the default command if none is given.
- d** deletes the named files and directories from the tape. At least one file argument must be given.
- x** extracts the named files from the tape to the file system. The owner, mode, and date-modified are restored to what they were when the file was dumped. If no file argument is given, the entire contents of the tape are extracted.
- t** lists the names of all files stored on the tape which are the same as or are hierarchically below the file arguments. If no file argument is given, the entire contents of the tape are tabled.
- l** is the same as **t** except that an expanded listing is produced giving all the available information about the listed files.

The following characters may be used in addition to the letter which selects the function desired.

- 0,...,7** This modifier selects the drive on which the tape is mounted. ‘0’ is the default.
- v** Normally *tap* does its work silently. The **v** (verbose) option causes it to type the name of each file it treats preceded by a letter to indicate what is happening.
 - r** file is being replaced
 - a** file is being added (not there before)
 - x** file is being extracted
 - d** file is being deleted

The **v** option can be used with **r**, **u**, **d**, and **x** only.
- c** means a fresh dump is being created; the tape directory will be zeroed before beginning. Usable only with **r** and **u**.
- f** causes new entries on tape to be ‘fake’ in that no data is present for these entries. Such fake entries cannot be extracted. Usable only with **r** and **u**.
- w** causes *tap* to pause before treating each file, type the indicative letter and the file name (as with **v**) and await the user’s response. Response **y** means ‘yes’, so the file is treated. Null response means ‘no’, and the file does not take part in whatever is being done. Response **x** means ‘exit’; the *tap* command terminates immediately. In the **x** function, files previously asked about have been extracted already. With **r**, **u**, and **d** no change has been made to the tape.

FILES

/dev/tap?

SEE ALSO

mt(I)

DIAGNOSTICS

Several; the non-obvious one is 'Phase error', which means the file changed after it was selected for dumping but before it was dumped.

BUGS

Asks about fake entries on **xw**, when it should ignore them. If a fake entry is extracted, and the file already exists on disk, the extraction does not take place (as is correct), but the mode and user ID of the file are set to 0.