

**NAME**

file – determine format of file

**SYNOPSIS**

**file** files

**DESCRIPTION**

*File* will examine each of its arguments and give a guess as to the contents of the file. It is the only program that will give device numbers of special files.

**BUGS**

If the file is not instantly recognized, its type is given as ‘unknown’. There should be some heuristic to recognize source file ‘signatures’ in each of the standard languages.