

NAME

if – conditional command

SYNOPSIS

if *expr* *command* [*arg* ...]

DESCRIPTION

If evaluates the expression *expr*, and if its value is true, executes the given *command* with the given arguments.

The following primitives are used to construct the *expr*:

-r *file* true if the file exists and is readable.
-w *file* true if the file exists and is writable
s1 = *s2* true if the strings *s1* and *s2* are equal.
s1 != *s2* true if the strings *s1* and *s2* are not equal.

These primaries may be combined with the following operators:

! unary negation operator
-a binary *and* operator
-o binary *or* operator
(*expr*) parentheses for grouping.

-a has higher precedence than **-o**. Notice that all the operators and flags are separate arguments to *if* and hence must be surrounded by spaces. Notice also that parentheses are meaningful to the Shell and must be escaped.

SEE ALSO

sh(I)

BUGS