

NAME

mail – send mail to another user

SYNOPSIS

mail [**-yn**]
mail letter person ...
mail person

DESCRIPTION

Mail without an argument searches for a file called *mailbox*, prints it if present, and asks if it should be saved. If the answer is **y**, the mail is renamed *mbox*, otherwise it is deleted. *Mail* with a **-y** or **-n** argument works the same way, except that the answer to the question is supplied by the argument.

When followed by the names of a letter and one or more people, the letter is appended to each person's *mailbox*. When a *person* is specified without a *letter*, the letter is taken from the sender's standard input up to an EOT. Each letter is preceded by the sender's name and a post-mark.

A *person* is either a user name recognized by **login**, in which case the mail is sent to the default working directory of that user, or the path name of a directory, in which case *mailbox* in that directory is used.

When a user logs in he is informed of the presence of mail.

FILES

/etc/passwd	to identify sender and locate persons
mailbox	input mail
mbox	saved mail

SEE ALSO

login(I)

BUGS

The mail should be prepended rather than appended to the mailbox. The old mbox should not be destroyed when new mail is saved.