

NAME

rm – remove (unlink) files

SYNOPSIS

rm [**-f**] [**-r**] name ...

DESCRIPTION

Rm removes the entries for one or more files from a directory. If an entry was the last link to the file, the file is destroyed. Removal of a file requires write permission in its directory, but neither read nor write permission on the file itself.

If there is no write permission to a file designated to be removed, *rm* will print the file name, its mode and then read a line from the standard input. If the line begins with **y**, the file is removed, otherwise it is not. The optional argument **-f** prevents this interaction.

If a designated file is a directory, an error comment is printed unless the optional argument **-r** has been used. In that case, *rm* recursively deletes the entire contents of the specified directory. To remove directories *per se* see *rmdir*(1).

FILES

/etc/glob to implement the **-r** flag

SEE ALSO

rmdir(1)

BUGS

When *rm* removes the contents of a directory under the **-r** flag, full pathnames are not printed in diagnostics.