

**NAME**

roff – format text

**SYNOPSIS**

**roff** [ *+n* ] [ *-n* ] [ *-s* ] [ *-h* ] file ...

**DESCRIPTION**

*Roff* formats text according to control lines embedded in the text in the given files. Encountering a nonexistent file terminates printing. Incoming interconsole messages are turned off during printing. The optional flag arguments mean:

- +n* Start printing at the first page with number *n*.
- n* Stop printing at the first page numbered higher than *n*.
- s* Stop before each page (including the first) to allow paper manipulation; resume on receipt of an interrupt signal.
- h* Insert tabs in the output stream to replace spaces whenever appropriate.

A Request Summary is attached.

**FILES**

/usr/lib/suftabsuffix hyphenation tables  
/tmp/rtn?temporary

**SEE ALSO**

nroff (I), troff (I)

**BUGS**

*Roff* is the simplest of the runoff programs, but is virtually undocumented.

## REQUEST SUMMARY

<i>Request</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Initial</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
.ad	yes	yes	Begin adjusting right margins.
.ar	no	arabic	Arabic page numbers.
.br	yes	-	Causes a line break – the filling of the current line is stopped.
.bl n	yes	-	Insert of n blank lines, on new page if necessary.
.bp +n	yes	n=1	Begin new page and number it n; no n means '+1'.
.cc c	no	c=.	Control character becomes 'c'.
.ce n	yes	-	Center the next n input lines, without filling.
.de xx	no	-	Define macro named 'xx' (definition ends on line beginning '..').
.ds	yes	no	Double space; same as '.ls 2'.
.ef t	no	t='''	Even foot title becomes t.
.eh t	no	t='''	Even head title becomes t.
.fi	yes	yes	Begin filling output lines.
.fo	no	t='''	All foot titles are t.
.hc c	no	none	Hyphenation character set to 'c'.
.he t	no	t='''	All head titles are t.
.hx	no	-	Title lines are suppressed.
.hy n	no	n=1	Hyphenation is done, if n=1; and is not done, if n=0.
.ig	no	-	Ignore input lines through a line beginning with '..'.
.in +n	yes	-	Indent n spaces from left margin.
.ix +n	no	-	Same as '.in' but without break.
.li n	no	-	Literal, treat next n lines as text.
.ll +n	no	n=65	Line length including indent is n characters.
.ls +n	yes	n=1	Line spacing set to n lines per output line.
.m1 n	no	n=2	Put n blank lines between the top of page and head title.
.m2 n	no	n=2	n blank lines put between head title and beginning of text on page.
.m3 n	no	n=1	n blank lines put between end of text and foot title.
.m4 n	no	n=3	n blank lines put between the foot title and the bottom of page.
.na	yes	no	Stop adjusting the right margin.
.ne n	no	-	Begin new page, if n output lines cannot fit on present page.
.nn +n	no	-	The next n output lines are not numbered.
.n1	no	no	Number output lines; start with 1 each page
.n2 n	no	no	Number output lines; stop numbering if n=0.
.ni +n	no	n=0	Line numbers are indented n.
.nf	yes	no	Stop filling output lines.
.nx filename	-	Change to input file 'filename'.	
.of t	no	t='''	Odd foot title becomes t.
.oh t	no	t='''	Odd head title becomes t.
.pa +n	yes	n=1	Same as '.bp'.
.pl +n	no	n=66	Total paper length taken to be n lines.
.po +n	no	n=0	Page offset. All lines are preceded by N spaces.
.ro	no	arabic	Roman page numbers.
.sk n	no	-	Produce n blank pages starting next page.
.sp n	yes	-	Insert block of n blank lines.
.ss	yes	yes	Single space output lines, equivalent to '.ls 1'.
.ta N M ...	-	-	Pseudotab settings. Initial tab settings are columns 9,17,25,...
.tc c	no	c=' '	Tab replacement character becomes 'c'.
.ti +n	yes	-	Temporarily indent next output line n space.
.tr abcd..	no	-	Translate a into b, c into d, etc.
.ul n	no	-	Underline the letters and numbers in the next n input lines.