

**NAME**

**bsplit** – split a binary file into *nnn*-byte pieces

**SYNOPSIS**

**bsplit** [ -? ] [ -*nnn*[*K/M/G/T/P/E*] ] [ -**b** *nnn*[*K/M/G/T/P/E*] ] [ -**h** ] [ -**v** ] file(s)

**DESCRIPTION**

**bsplit** splits its argument file(s) into *nnn*-byte pieces. The size of the pieces is determined by the most-recently encountered size option.

Splitting of large files is useful for electronic mail transmission (32KB is the recommended maximum size), to facilitate FTP file transfers over connections that experience fatal timeouts for large files, and for transferring files on personal computer floppy disks.

The split size is always forced internally to be a multiple of 512, which is the minimum block size on most current systems. By ensuring that the parts are multiples of file system block sizes, corruption of the pieces through addition of padding garbage on some record-oriented file systems can be avoided.

For text files, where it is desirable to split at line boundaries, use **split**(1) instead.

The split pieces go into parts named like the argument file, but with the suffix *-mmm* (*-001*, *-002*, etc.).

If no files are specified, then *stdin* is read and split, and the output pieces are named *stdin-001*, *stdin-002*, etc.

On IBM PC DOS and DEC VMS systems, where only a single period is allowed in a filename, the suffix is changed to *.mmm* and it replaces any file extension present in the filename.

**OPTIONS**

On IBM PC and DEC VMS systems, the option hyphen prefix, '-', may be replaced by a slash, '/'; both are recognized on those systems. The documentation below uses only the hyphen prefix.

Letter case is ignored in option names: **-H** and **-h** are equivalent.

**-?** Give a brief usage display on *stderr* and exit with a success status code.

**-b** *nnn*[*K/M/G/T/P/E*] or **-nnn**[*K/M/G/T/P/E*]

Define the size, in bytes, of the output pieces; the last one may, of course, be shorter than this. Any size smaller than 1024 will be reset to 1024, and the size will always be rounded up to a multiple of 512 bytes.

The *integer* value *nnn* may be optionally followed by a multiplier suffix: *K*(kilo), *M*(mega), *G*(giga), *T*(tera), *P*(peta), or *E*(exa). These correspond to powers of the computer unit 1024, rather than the usual 1000 of the metric system.

If this size option is omitted, then 1423K is assumed; this peculiar number is the size of an IBM PC 3.5in high-density floppy disk, which is a common file transfer medium.

**-h** Give a brief usage display on *stderr* and exit with a success status code.

**-v** Display the program version number and date on *stderr* and exit with a success status code.

**SEE ALSO**

**mail**(1), **split**(1), **uucp**(1C), **uue**(1), **uuencode**(1), **uuencode**(5), **uusend**(1C), **uux**(1C), **xxencode**(1).

**STATUS**

This program and its manual page are placed in the *public domain*.

**AUTHOR**

Nelson H. F. Beebe  
Center for Scientific Computing  
University of Utah  
Department of Mathematics, 322 INSCC  
155 S 1400 E RM 233  
Salt Lake City, UT 84112-0090  
USA

Email: [beebe@math.utah.edu](mailto:beebe@math.utah.edu), [beebe@acm.org](mailto:beebe@acm.org), [beebe@ieee.org](mailto:beebe@ieee.org) (Internet)  
WWW URL: <http://www.math.utah.edu/~beebe>  
FAX: +1 801 585 1640, +1 801 581 4148  
Tel: +1 801 581 5254