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Usage: a2ps [*OPTION*]... [*FILE*]...

Convert *FILE*(s) or standard input to PostScript. By default, the output is sent to the default printer. An output file may be specified with **-o**.

Mandatory arguments to long options are mandatory for short options too. Long options marked with * require a yes/no argument, corresponding short options stand for 'yes'.

Tasks

--version display version
--help display this help
--guess report guessed types of *FILES*
--which report the full path of library files named *FILES*
--glob report the full path of library files matching *FILES*
--list=defaults display default settings and parameters
--list=TOPIC detailed list on *TOPIC* (delegations, encodings, features, variables, media, ppd, printers, prologues, style-sheets, user-options)

After having performed the task, exit successfully. Detailed lists may provide additional help on specific features.

Global

-q, --quiet, --silent be really quiet
-v, --verbose[=LEVEL] set verbosity on, or to *LEVEL*
-, --user-option=OPTION use the user defined shortcut *OPTION*
--debug enable debugging features
-D, --define=KEY[:VALUE] unset variable *KEY* or set to *VALUE*

Sheets

-M, --medium=NAME use output medium *NAME*
-r, --landscape print in landscape mode
-R, --portrait print in portrait mode
--columns=NUM number of columns per sheet
--rows=NUM number of rows per sheet
--major=DIRECTION first fill (*DIRECTION*=) rows, or columns
-1, -2, ..., -9 predefined font sizes and layouts for 1.. 9 virtuals
-A, --file-align=MODE align separate files according to *MODE* (fill, rank page, sheet, or a number)
-j, --borders* print borders around columns
--margin[=NUM] define an interior margin of size *NUM*

The options **-1.. -9** affect several primitive parameters to set up predefined layouts with 80 columns. Therefore the order matters: **'-R -f40 -2'** is equivalent to **'-2'**. To modify the layout, use **'-2Rf40'**, or compose primitive options (**'--columns'**, **'--font-size'** etc.).

Virtual pages

--line-numbers=NUM precede each *NUM* lines with its line number
-C alias for **--line-numbers=5**
-f, --font-size=SIZE use font *SIZE* (float) for the body text
-L, --lines-per-page=NUM scale the font to print *NUM* lines per virtual
-l, --chars-per-line=NUM scale the font to print *NUM* columns per virtual
-m, --catman process *FILE* as a man page (same as **-L66**)
-T, --tabsize=NUM set tabulator size to *NUM*
--non-printable-format=FMT specify how non-printable chars are printed

Headings

-B, --no-header no page headers at all
-b, --header[=TEXT] set page header
-u, --underlay[=TEXT] print *TEXT* under every page

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--center-title[=TEXT] set page title to *TITLE*
--left-title[=TEXT] set left and right page title to *TEXT*
--right-title[=TEXT]
--left-footer[=TEXT] set sheet footers to *TEXT*
--footer[=TEXT]
--right-footer[=TEXT]

The TEXTs may use special escapes.

Input

-a, --pages[=RANGE] select the pages to print
-c, --truncate-lines* cut long lines
-i, --interpret* interpret tab, bs and ff chars
--end-of-line=TYPE specify the eol char (*TYPE*: r, n, nr, rn, any)
-X, --encoding=NAME use input encoding *NAME*
-t, --title=NAME set the name of the job
--stdin=NAME set the name of the input file stdin
--print-anyway* force binary printing
-Z, --delegate* delegate files to another application
--toc[=TEXT] generate a table of content

When delegations are enabled, a2ps may use other applications to handle the processing of files that should not be printed as raw information, e.g., *HTML* PostScript, *PDF* etc.

Pretty-printing

-E, --pretty-print[=LANG] enable pretty-printing (set style to *LANG*)
--highlight-level=LEVEL set pretty printing highlight *LEVEL*
LEVEL can be none, normal or heavy
-g alias for **--highlight-level=heavy**
--strip-level=NUM level of comments stripping

Output

-o, --output=FILE leave output to file *FILE*. If *FILE* is '-', leave output to stdout.
--version-control=WORD override the usual version control
--suffix=SUFFIX override the usual backup suffix
-P, --printer=NAME send output to printer *NAME*
-d send output to the default printer (this is the default behavior)

PostScript

--prologue=FILE include *FILE*.pro as PostScript prologue
--ppd[=KEY] automatic *PPD* selection or set to *KEY*
-n, --copies=NUM print *NUM* copies of each page
-s, --sides=MODE set the duplex *MODE* ('l' or 'simplex', '2' or 'duplex', 'tumble')
-S, --setpagedevice=K[:V] pass a page device definition to output
--statusdict=K[:[:V]] pass a statusdict definition to the output
-k, --page-prefeed enable page prefeed
-K, --no-page-prefeed disable page prefeed

By default a2ps is tuned to do what you want to, so trust it. To pretty print the content of the 'src' directory and a table of content, and send the result to the printer 'lw',

```
$ a2ps -P lw --toc src/*
```

To process the files 'sample.ps' and 'sample.html' and display the result,

```
$ a2ps -P display sample.ps sample.html
```

To process a mailbox in 4 up,

```
$ a2ps -m=mail -4 mailbox
```

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To print as a booklet on the default printer, which is Duplex capable,

```
$ a2ps ==book paper.dvi.gz -d
```

News, updates and documentation: visit <http://www.gnu.org/software/a2ps/>.
Report bugs to [<bug-a2ps@gnu.org>](mailto:bug-a2ps@gnu.org).