

**NAME**

**detox** - clean up filenames

**SYNOPSIS**

**detox** [-f *configfile*] [-n | --dry-run] [-r] [-s *sequence*] [--special] [-v] *file* ...

**detox** [-L] [-f *configfile*] [-v]

**detox** [-h | --help]

**detox** [-V]

**DESCRIPTION**

The **detox** utility renames files to make them easier to work with under Unix and Unix-like operating systems. It replaces characters that make it hard to type out a filename with dashes and underscores. It also provides transliteration-based filters, converting ISO 8859-1 or UTF-8 to ASCII, in part or in whole. An additional filter unescapes CGI-escaped filenames.

**Sequences**

**detox** is driven by a configurable series of filters, called a sequence. Sequences are covered in more detail in *detoxrc(5)* and are discoverable with the **-L** option. The default sequence will run the *safe* and *wipeup* filters. Other examples of pre-configured sequences are *iso8859\_1* and *utf\_8*, which both provide transliteration to ASCII and then finish with the *safe* and *wipeup* filters.

**Options**

**-f configfile** Use *configfile* instead of the default configuration files for loading translation sequences. No other config file will be parsed.

**-h, --help** Display helpful information.

**--inline** Run in inline mode. See *inline-detox(1)* for more details.

**-L** List the currently available sequences. When paired with **-v** this option shows what filters are used in each sequence and any properties applied to the filters.

**-n, --dry-run** Doesn't actually change anything. This implies the **-v** option.

**-r** Recurse into subdirectories. Any file or directory that starts with a period, such as *.git/* or *.cache/*, will be ignored during recursion unless specified on the command line. Also, any file or directory specified in the ignore section of the config file will be ignored during recursion.

**-s sequence** Use *sequence* instead of **default**.

- special** Works on special files (including links). Normally **detox** ignores these files. **detox** will not recurse into symlinks that point at directories.
- v** Be verbose about which files are being renamed.
- V** Show the current version of **detox**.

## FILES

- /etc/detoxrc* The system-wide *detoxrc* file.
- ~/.detoxrc* A user's personal *detoxrc*. Normally it extends the system-wide *detoxrc*, unless **-f** has been specified, in which case, it is ignored.
- /usr/share/detox/cp1252.tbl*  
The provided CP-1252 transliteration table.
- /usr/share/detox/iso8859\_1.tbl*  
The provided ISO 8859-1 transliteration table.
- /usr/share/detox/safe.tbl*  
The provided safe character translation table.
- /usr/share/detox/unicode.tbl*  
The provided Unicode transliteration table, used by the UTF-8 filter.
- /usr/share/detox/unidecode.tbl*  
An additional Unicode transliteration table, based on Text::Unidecode(3pm).

## EXAMPLES

- detox -s lower -r -v -n /tmp/new\_files**  
Will run the sequence *lower* recursively, listing any changes, without changing anything, on the files of */tmp/new\_files*.
- detox -f my\_detoxrc -L -v**  
Will list the sequences within *my\_detoxrc*, showing their filters and options.

## SEE ALSO

inline-detox(1), Text::Unidecode(3pm), detox.tbl(5), detoxrc(5), ascii(7), iso\_8859-1(7), unicode(7), utf-8(7)

## HISTORY

**detox** was originally designed to clean up files that I had received from friends which had been created using other operating systems. It's trivial to create a filename with spaces, parenthesis, brackets, and ampersands under some operating systems. These have special meaning within FreeBSD and Linux, and cause problems when you go to access them. I created **detox** to clean up these files.

Version 2.0 stepped back from transliteration out of the box, instead focusing on ease of use. The primary motivations for this were user-provided feedback, and the fact that many modern Unix-like OSs use UTF-8 as their primary character set. Transliterating from UTF-8 to ASCII in this scenario is lossy and pointless.

## AUTHORS

**detox** was written by Doug Harple.

## CAVEATS

If, after the translation of a filename is finished, a file already exists with that same name, **detox** will not rename the file.