RM(I)

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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 a file has no write permission, rm prints the file name and its mode, then reads a line from the standard input. If the line begins with y, the file is removed, otherwise it is not. The file is removed without the question being asked if option $-\mathbf{f}$ was given or if the standard input is not a typewriter.

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

FILES

/etc/glob to implement the $-\mathbf{r}$ flag

SEE ALSO

rmdir (I)

BUGS

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