

**NAME**

`bxexe` - compress executable files in place

**SYNOPSIS**

`bxexe` [ name ... ]

**DESCRIPTION**

The *bxexe* utility allows you to compress executables in place and have them automatically uncompress and execute when you run them (at a penalty in performance). For example if you execute “`bxexe /bin/cat`” it will create the following two files:

```
-r-xr-xr-x 1 root bin 9644 Feb 11 11:16 /bin/cat
```

```
-r-xr-xr-x 1 bin bin 24576 Nov 23 13:21 /bin/cat~
```

`/bin/cat~` is the original file and `/bin/cat` is the self-uncompressing executable file. You can remove `/bin/cat~` once you are sure that `/bin/cat` works properly.

This utility is most useful on systems with very small disks.

**OPTIONS**

`-d` Decompress the given executables instead of compressing them.

**SEE ALSO**

[bzip2\(1\)](#), [znew\(1\)](#), [zmore\(1\)](#), [zcmp\(1\)](#), [zforce\(1\)](#)

**CAVEATS**

The compressed executable is a shell script. This may create some security holes. In particular, the compressed executable relies on the `PATH` environment variable to find *gzip* and some other utilities (*tail*, *chmod*, *ln*, *sleep*).

**BUGS**

*bxexe* attempts to retain the original file attributes on the compressed executable, but you may have to fix them manually in some cases, using *chmod* or *chown*.