

**NAME**

comm - compare two sorted files line by line

**SYNOPSIS**

**comm** [*OPTION*]... *FILE1 FILE2*

**DESCRIPTION**

Compare sorted files *FILE1* and *FILE2* line by line.

With no options, produce three-column output. Column one contains lines unique to *FILE1*, column two contains lines unique to *FILE2*, and column three contains lines common to both files.

**-1** suppress column 1 (lines unique to *FILE1*)

**-2** suppress column 2 (lines unique to *FILE2*)

**-3** suppress column 3 (lines that appear in both files)

**--check-order**

check that the input is correctly sorted, even if all input lines are pairable

**--nocheck-order**

do not check that the input is correctly sorted

**--output-delimiter=STR**

separate columns with *STR*

**--help** display this help and exit

**--version**

output version information and exit

Note, comparisons honor the rules specified by 'LC\_COLLATE'.

**EXAMPLES**

comm -12 file1 file2

Print only lines present in both file1 and file2.

comm -3 file1 file2

Print lines in file1 not in file2, and vice versa.

**AUTHOR**

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**REPORTING BUGS**

GNU coreutils online help: <<http://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/>>

Report comm translation bugs to <<http://translationproject.org/team/>>

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**SEE ALSO**

[join\(1\)](#), [uniq\(1\)](#)

Full documentation at: <<http://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/comm>>

or available locally via: info (coreutils) comm invocation