

**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'