NAME
diff3 - compare three files line by line

SYNOPSIS
diff3 [*OPTION*]... *MYFILE OLDFILE YOURFILE*

DESCRIPTION
Compare three files line by line.

Mandatory arguments to long options are mandatory for short options too.

-A, **--show-all**
> output all changes, bracketing conflicts

-e, **--ed**
> output ed script incorporating changes from OLDFILE to YOURFILE into MYFILE

-E, **--show-overlap**
> like **-e**, but bracket conflicts

-3, **--easy-only**
> like **-e**, but incorporate only nonoverlapping changes

-x, **--overlap-only**
> like **-e**, but incorporate only overlapping changes

-X   like **-x**, but bracket conflicts

-i   append 'w' and 'q' commands to ed scripts

-m, **--merge**
> output actual merged file, according to **-A** if no other options are given

-a, **--text**
> treat all files as text

--strip-trailing-cr
> strip trailing carriage return on input

-T, **--initial-tab**
> make tabs line up by prepending a tab

--diff-program=*PROGRAM*
> use PROGRAM to compare files

-L, **--label**=*LABEL*
> use LABEL instead of file name (can be repeated up to three times)

--help   display this help and exit

-v, **--version**
> output version information and exit

The default output format is a somewhat human-readable representation of the changes.

The **-e**, **-E**, **-x**, **-X** (and corresponding long) options cause an ed script to be output instead of the default.

Finally, the **-m** (**--merge**) option causes diff3 to do the merge internally and output the actual merged file. For unusual input, this is more robust than using ed.

If a FILE is '-', read standard input. Exit status is 0 if successful, 1 if conflicts, 2 if trouble.

AUTHOR
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REPORTING BUGS
Report bugs to: bug-diffutils@gnu.org
GNU diffutils home page: <http://www.gnu.org/software/diffutils/>

General help using GNU software: <http://www.gnu.org/gethelp/>

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SEE ALSO

cmp(1), diff(1), sdiff(1)

The full documentation for **diff3** is maintained as a Texinfo manual. If the **info** and **diff3** programs are properly installed at your site, the command

info diff3

should give you access to the complete manual.