

**NAME**

expand - convert tabs to spaces

**SYNOPSIS**

**expand** [*OPTION*]... [*FILE*]...

**DESCRIPTION**

Convert tabs in each *FILE* to spaces, writing to standard output. With no *FILE*, or when *FILE* is -, read standard input.

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

**-i, --initial**

do not convert tabs after non blanks

**-t, --tabs=NUMBER**

have tabs *NUMBER* characters apart, not 8

**-t, --tabs=LIST**

use comma separated list of explicit tab positions

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

**--version**

output version information and exit

**AUTHOR**

Written by David MacKenzie.

**REPORTING BUGS**

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

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

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**SEE ALSO**

[unexpand\(1\)](#)

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

or available locally via: info (coreutils) expand invocation