

NAME

free - Display amount of free and used memory in the system

SYNOPSIS

free [*options*]

DESCRIPTION

free displays the total amount of free and used physical and swap memory in the system, as well as the buffers used by the kernel. The shared memory column represents either the MemShared value (2.4 series kernels) or the Shmem value (2.6 series kernels and later) taken from the /proc/meminfo file. The value is zero if none of the entries is exported by the kernel.

OPTIONS

-b, --bytes

Display the amount of memory in bytes.

-k, --kilo

Display the amount of memory in kilobytes. This is the default.

-m, --mega

Display the amount of memory in megabytes.

-g, --giga

Display the amount of memory in gigabytes.

--tera Display the amount of memory in terabytes.

-h, --human

Show all output fields automatically scaled to shortest three digit unit and display the units of print out. Following units are used.

B = bytes

K = kilos

M = megas

G = gigas

T = teras

If unit is missing, and you have petabyte of RAM or swap, the number is in terabytes and columns might not be aligned with header.

-c, --count *count*

Display the result *count* times. Requires the **-s** option.

-l, --lohi

Show detailed low and high memory statistics.

-o, --old

Display the output in old format, the only difference being this option will disable the display of the buffer adjusted line.

-s, --seconds *seconds*

Continuously display the result delay *seconds* apart. You may actually specify any floating point number for *delay*, [usleep\(3\)](#) is used for microsecond resolution delay times.

--si Use power of 1000 not 1024.

-t, --total

Display a line showing the column totals.

--help Print help.

-V, --version

Display version information.

FILES

/proc/meminfo
memory information

SEE ALSO

[ps\(1\)](#), [slabtop\(1\)](#), [top\(1\)](#), [vmstat\(8\)](#).

AUTHORS

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REPORTING BUGS

Please send bug reports to [Unknown](#)