

NAME

gpinyin - Chinese European-like writing within groff

SYNOPSIS

```
gpinyin [-] [--] [ filespec ...]
gpinyin -h|--help
gpinyin -v|--version
```

DESCRIPTION

This is a preprocessor for [groff\(1\)](#). It allows to add the Chinese European-like language *Pinyin* into [groff\(7\)](#) files.

OPTIONS**Breaking Options**

An option is *breaking*, when the program just writes the information that was asked for and then stops. All other arguments will be ignored by that. The *breaking* options are here

-h | --help

Print help information with a short explanation of options to standard output.

-v | --version

Print version information to standard output.

Filespec Options

So far, there are only *filespec* and *breaking* options.

filespec arguments are file names or the minus sign - for standard input. As usual, the argument -- can be used in order to let all following arguments mean file names, even if the names begin with a minus character -.

PINYIN PARTS

Pinyin parts in *groff files* are enclosed by two **.pinyin** requests with different arguments. The starting request is

```
\.pinyin start
```

or

```
\.pinyin begin
```

and the ending request is

```
\.pinyin stop
```

or

```
\.pinyin end
```

PINYIN DETAILS

Pinyin is used for writing the Chinese language in a European-like (romanization) way. The Chinese language consists of more than 400 syllables, each with one of 5 different tones. In *Pinyin*, such toned syllables can be appended to word-like connections.

Syllables

The Chinese language is based on about 411 defined *syllables*, see [Unknown](#).

In *Pinyin*, each syllable consists of 1 to 6 European-like letters, the normal ASCII characters in upper and lower case, the only unusual characters are the **U dieresis (umlaut)** in both cases, i.e. **[a-zA-Z]**.

In the **groff gpinyin** input, all ASCII letters are written as usual. But the **u/U dieresis** can be written as either as **[u] or ue** in lower case or **[U], Ue, UE** in upper case.

Tones

Each syllable has exactly one of 5 defined *tones*. The 5th tone is not written at all, but each tone 1 to 4 is written as an accent above a defined vowel within the syllable.

In the source file, these tones are written by adding a number 0 to 5 after the syllable name.

In each writing, the tone numbers 1 to 4 are transformed into accents above vowels.

The 1st tone is the horizontal macron [a-] ¯, similar to a minus or sub character, but on top of the vowel. In each source file, write the 1st tone as *syllable1*.

The 2nd tone is the acute accent [aa] ´. In each source file, write the 2nd tone as *syllable2*.

The 3rd tone is the caron sign, [ah] ˇ, which looks a bit like a small v above the vowel. In each source file, write the 3rd tone as *syllable3*.

The 4th tone is the grave accent [ga] ` . In each source file, write the 4th tone as *syllable4*.

The 5th tone is the no-tone. The numbers 0 and 5 can be used for the (no-tone). The **no-tone** number can be omitted, when the syllable is the end of some word. But within a word of syllables, one of the **no-tone** numbers 0 or 5 must be written.

SEE ALSO

[groff\(1\)](#)

[grog\(1\)](#)

[groffer\(1\)](#) Man-pages with section 1 related to *groff*. They can be called with either

man *name*

groffer*name*

[groff\(7\)](#)

[groff_char\(7\)](#) Man-pages with section 7 related to *groff*. They can be called with either

man *7name*

groffer *7name*

Internet documents related to *pinyin* are

[.I Wikipedia pinyin,](#)

[.I Pinyin Table,](#)

[Unknown](#)

[.IR pinyin to Unicode,](#)

[.I Online Chinese Tools,](#)

[.I Main pinyin website,](#)

[.I Where do the tone marks go?,](#)

[Unknown](#)

[Unknown](#)

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