

NAME

ul — do underlining

SYNOPSIS

ul [**-i**] [**-t** *terminal*] [*file* . . .]

DESCRIPTION

The **ul** utility reads the named files (or standard input if none are given) and translates occurrences of underscores to the sequence which indicates underlining for the terminal in use, as specified by the environment variable `TERM`. The file `/etc/termcap` is read to determine the appropriate sequences for underlining. If the terminal is incapable of underlining, but is capable of a standout mode then that is used instead. If the terminal can overstrike, or handles underlining automatically, **ul** degenerates to [cat\(1\)](#). If the terminal cannot underline, underlining is ignored. During the translation some other special characters also get translated. E.g. `TAB` gets expanded to spaces.

The following options are available:

- i** Underlining is indicated by a separate line containing appropriate dashes ‘-’; this is useful when you want to look at the underlining which is present in an [nroff\(1\)](#) output stream on a CRT-terminal.
- t** *terminal*
Overrides the terminal type specified in the environment with *terminal*.

ENVIRONMENT

The `LANG`, `LC_ALL`, `LC_CTYPE` and `TERM` environment variables affect the execution of **ul** as described in [environ\(7\)](#).

EXIT STATUS

The **ul** utility exits 0 on success, and >0 if an error occurs.

SEE ALSO

[colcrt\(1\)](#), [man\(1\)](#), [nroff\(1\)](#)

HISTORY

The **ul** command appeared in 3.0BSD.

BUGS

The [nroff\(1\)](#) command usually outputs a series of backspaces and underlines intermixed with the text to indicate underlining. No attempt is made to optimize the backward motion.