

## NAME

dpkg-statoverride - override ownership and mode of files

## SYNOPSIS

**dpkg-statoverride** [*option...*] *command*

## DESCRIPTION

'**stat overrides**' are a way to tell [dpkg\(1\)](#) to use a different owner or mode for a path when a package is installed (this applies to any filesystem object that **dpkg** handles, including directories, devices, etc.). This can be used to force programs that are normally setuid to be install without a setuid flag, or only executable by a certain group.

**dpkg-statoverride** is a utility to manage the list of stat overrides. It has three basic functions: adding, removing and listing overrides.

## COMMANDS

**--add** *user group mode path*

Add an override for *path*. *path* does not need to exist when this command is used; the override will be stored and used later. Users and groups can be specified by their name (for example **root** or **nobody**), or by their number by prepending the number with a '#' (for example **#0** or **#65534**). The *mode* needs to be specified in octal.

If **--update** is specified and *path* exists, it is immediately set to the new owner and mode.

**--remove** *path*

Remove an override for *path*, the status of *path* is left unchanged by this command.

**--list** [*glob-pattern*]

List all overrides. If a glob pattern is specified restrict the output to overrides which match the glob. If there are no overrides or none match the glob **dpkg-statoverride** will exit with an exitcode of 1.

**--help** Show the usage message and exit.

**--version**

Show the version and exit.

## OPTIONS

**--admindir** *directory*

Change the *directory* of the **dpkg** database where the statoverride file is also stored. Defaults to */var/lib/dpkg*.

**--force**

Force an action, even if a sanity check would otherwise prohibit it. This is necessary to override an existing override.

**--update**

Immediately try to change the *path* to the new owner and mode if it exists.

**--quiet**

Be less verbose about what we do.

## ENVIRONMENT

**DPKG\_ADMINDIR**

If set and the **--admindir** option has not been specified, it will be used as the **dpkg** data directory.

## FILES

*/var/lib/dpkg/statoverride*

File which contains the current list of stat overrides of the system. It is located in the **dpkg** administration directory, along with other files important to **dpkg**, such as 'status' or 'available'.

Note: **dpkg-statoverride** preserves the old copy of this file, with extension *-old*, before

replacing it with the new one.

**SEE ALSO**

[dpkg\(1\)](#).