

NAME

`fsck.minix` - check consistency of Minix filesystem

SYNOPSIS

`fsck.minix` [-larvsmf] *device*

DESCRIPTION

`fsck.minix` performs a consistency check for the Linux MINIX filesystem. The current version supports the 14 character and 30 character filename options.

The program assumes the filesystem is quiescent. `fsck.minix` should not be used on a mounted device unless you can be sure nobody is writing to it (and remember that the kernel can write to it when it searches for files).

The *device* name will usually have the following form:

/dev/hda[1-63] (IDE disk 1)
/dev/hdb[1-63] (IDE disk 2)
/dev/sda[1-15] (SCSI disk 1)
/dev/sdb[1-15] (SCSI disk 2)

If the filesystem was changed (i.e., repaired), then `fsck.minix` will print FILE SYSTEM HAS CHANGED and will [sync\(2\)](#) three times before exiting. Since Linux does not currently have raw devices, there is *no* need to reboot at this time.

WARNING

`fsck.minix` should **not** be used on a mounted filesystem. Using `fsck.minix` on a mounted filesystem is very dangerous, due to the possibility that deleted files are still in use, and can seriously damage a perfectly good filesystem! If you absolutely have to run `fsck.minix` on a mounted filesystem (i.e., the root filesystem), make sure nothing is writing to the disk, and that no files are zombies waiting for deletion.

OPTIONS

- l List all filenames.
- r Perform interactive repairs.
- a Perform automatic repairs. (This option implies **-r** and serves to answer all of the questions asked with the default.) Note that this can be extremely dangerous in the case of extensive filesystem damage.
- v Be verbose.
- s Output super-block information.
- m Activate MINIX-like mode not cleared warnings.
- f Force a filesystem check even if the filesystem was marked as valid (this marking is done by the kernel when the filesystem is unmounted).

SEE ALSO

[fsck\(8\)](#), [fsck.ext2\(8\)](#), [mkfs\(8\)](#), [mkfs.minix\(8\)](#), [mkfs.ext2\(8\)](#), [reboot\(8\)](#)

DIAGNOSTICS

There are numerous diagnostic messages. The ones mentioned here are the most commonly seen in normal usage.

If the device does not exist, `fsck.minix` will print unable to read super block. If the device exists, but is not a MINIX filesystem, `fsck.minix` will print bad magic number in super-block.

EXIT CODES

The exit code returned by `fsck.minix` is the sum of the following:

- 0 No errors

- 3 Filesystem errors corrected, system should be rebooted if filesystem was mounted
- 4 Filesystem errors left uncorrected
- 7 Combination of exit codes 3 and 4
- 8 Operational error
- 16 Usage or syntax error

In point of fact, only 0, 3, 4, 7, 8, and 16 can ever be returned.

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Error code values by Rik Faith (faith@cs.unc.edu)

Added support for filesystem valid flag: Dr. Wettstein (greg%wind.uucp@plains.nodak.edu)

Check to prevent fsck of mounted filesystem added by Daniel Quinlan (quinlan@yggdrasil.com)

Minix v2 fs support by Andreas Schwab (schwab@issan.informatik.uni-dortmund.de), updated by Nicolai Langfeldt (janl@math.uio.no)

Portability patch by Russell King (rmk@ecs.soton.ac.uk).

AVAILABILITY

The fsck.minix command is part of the util-linux package and is available from <ftp://ftp.kernel.org/pub/linux/utils/util-linux/>.