NAME

ntfswipe - overwrite unused space on an NTFS volume

SYNOPSIS

ntfswipe [*options*] *device*

DESCRIPTION

ntfswipe clears all or part of unused space on an NTFS volume by overwriting with zeroes or random bytes.

OPTIONS

Below is a summary of all the options that **ntfswipe** accepts. Nearly all options have two equivalent names. The short name is preceded by **-** and the long name is preceded by **--**. Any single letter options, that don't take an argument, can be combined into a single command, e.g. **-fv** is equivalent to **-f -v**. Long named options can be abbreviated to any unique prefix of their name.

-a, **--all** Wipe all unused space. This may take significant time. If the option --unused-fast (or -U) is also present, the faster wiping method is used.

-b, **--bytes** BYTE-LIST

Define the allowed replacement bytes which are drawn randomly to overwrite the unused space. BYTE-LIST is a comma-separated list of values in range 0-255 expressed in octal, decimal or hexadecimal base.

-c, **--count** NUM

Define the number of times the unused space is to be overwritten.

-d, **--directory**

Wipe all the directory indexes, which may contain names of deleted files.

-f, **--force**

This will override some sensible defaults, such as not using a mounted volume. Use this option with caution.

-h, **--help**

Show a list of options with a brief description of each one.

-i, **--info**

Display details about unused space, without wiping anything.

-l, **--logfile**

Overwrite the logfile (update journal).

-m, **--mft**

Overwrite the unused space in the MFT (main file table, which contains the file names, and the contents of short files).

-n, **--no-action**

Executes the wiping process without writing to device.

-p, **--pagefile**

Overwrite the Windows swap space.

-q, **--quiet**

Suppress some debug/warning/error messages.

-s, **--undel**

Overwrite the space which had been allocated to a file which has been deleted recently and is still undeletable.

-t, **--tails**

Overwrite the space at the end of files which is unused, but allocated because the allocations are always done by full clusters.

-u, **--unused**

> Overwrite the space which is currently not allocated to any file (but may have been used in the past).

-U, **--unused-fast**

> Overwrite the space which is currently not allocated to any file, trying not to overwrite the space not written to since the previous wiping.

-v, **--verbose**

> Display more debug/warning/error messages. This option may be used twice to display even more messages.

-V, **--version**

> Show the version number, copyright and license of **ntfswipe**.

EXAMPLES

Wipe out all unused space in an NTFS volume.

> **ntfswipe -a /dev/sda1**

Wipe out all deleted file names from an NTFS volume.

> **ntfswipe -dms /dev/sda1**

BUGS

There are no known problems with **ntfswipe**. If you find a bug please send an email describing the problem to the development team:
ntfs-3g-devel@lists.sf.net

AUTHORS

ntfswipe was written by Richard Russon, Anton Altaparmakov and Yura Pakhuchiy. It was ported to ntfs-3g by Erik Larsson.

AVAILABILITY

ntfswipe is part of the **ntfs-3g** package and is available from:
http://www.tuxera.com/community/

SEE ALSO

ntfs-3g(8), ntfsls(8), ntfsprogs(8)