CVS Quick Reference Card

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CVS is the Concurrent Versions System, the dominant open-source, network-transparent version control system.

Command Line Syntax

`cvs [global_opts] command [command_opts] [command_args]`

Global options:

`--allow-root=rootdir`	*Specify legal CVSROOT directory.*	*(server only)*
`-a`	*Authenticate all communication.*	*(client only)*
`-d root`	*Specify the* `CVSROOT`.	
`-e editor`	*Edit messages with editor.*	
`-f`	*Do not read the* `~/.cvsrc` *file.*	
`-H`	*Print a help message.*	
`--help`	*ditto*	
`-l`	*Do not log in* `CVSROOT/history` *file.*	
`-n`	*Do not change any files.*	
`-Q`	*Be really quiet.*	
`-q`	*Be somewhat quiet.*	
`-r`	*Make new working files read-only.*	
`-s var=value`	*Set a user variable.*	
`-T tempdir`	*Put temporary files in* `tempdir`.	
`-t`	*Trace CVS execution.*	
`-v`	*Display CVS version and copyright information.*	
`--version`	*ditto*	
`-w`	*Make new working files read-write.*	
`-x`	*Encrypt all communication.*	*(client only)*
`-z gzip-lvl`	*Set the compression level.*	*(client only)*

CVS Commands

`add`	*Add new files or directories.*
`admin`	*Repository administration.*
`annotate`	*Disply revision for each line.*
`checkout`	*Check out sources for editing.*
`commit`	*Commit changes into repository.*
`diff`	*Show differences between revisions.*
`edit`	*Prepare to edit a file being watched.*
`editors`	*List users working on a file.*
`export`	*Export files from CVS.*
`history`	*Show repository access history.*
`import`	*Import files into CVS.*
`init`	*Create a CVS repository if none exists.*
`log`	*Print log information for files.*
`login`	*Prompt for password for client access.*
`logout`	*Removed stored password.*
`rdiff`	*Show differences between releases.*
`release`	*Indicate that a directory is no longer in use.*
`remove`	*Remove an entry from the repository.*
`rtag`	*Add a symbolic tag to a module.*
`status`	*Display status information.*
`tag`	*Add a symbolic tag to checked-out files.*
`unedit`	*Undo an edit command.*
`update`	*Bring work tree into sync with repository.*
`watch`	*Tell CVS to provide notifications.*
`watchers`	*List who is watching a file.*

Keywords

`$Author$`	*Login name of the user who checked in the revision*
`$Date$`	*Date and time (UTC) the revision was checked in*
`$Header$`	*Standard header with full pathname of file in repository*
`$Id$`	*Standard header with filename of file in repository*
`$Locker$`	*Login name of the user who locked the revision*
`$Log$`	*Log message supplied on commit*
`$Name$`	*Tag name used to check out the file*
`$RCSfile$`	*Name of the file in repository (without path)*
`$Revision$`	*Revision number*
`$Source$`	*Full pathname of file in repository*
`$State$`	*State assigned to revision*

Keyword expansion modes:

`-kkv`	*Generate keyword strings in default format*
`-kkvl`	*Like* `-kkv` *except locker's name is inserted*
`-kk`	*Generate only keyword names in keyword strings*
`-kv`	*Generate old keyword string present in the working file just before it was checked in.*
`-ko`	*no expansion*
`-kb`	*no expansion, file is binary*

Commands, command options and arguments

`add [options] [files]...`

Adds a new file/directory

`-k kflag`	*Set keyword expansion*
`-m msg`	*Set file description*

`admin [options] [files]...`

Administration of history files in the repository.

`-b [rev]`	*Set default branch*
`-c string`	*Set comment leader*
`-k subst`	*Set keyword substitution*
`-l [rev]`	*Lock revision* `rev`, *or latest revision*
`-m rev:msg`	*replace the log message of revision* `rev` *with* `msg`
`-o range`	*Delete revisions from the repository.*
`-q`	*Run quietly; do not print diagnostics.*
`-s`	*Set the state.*
`state[:rev]`	
`-t`	*Set file description from standard input*
`-t file`	*Set file description from* `file`
`-t -string`	*Set file description to string*
`-u [rev]`	*Unlock revision* `rev`, *or latest revision*

`annotate [options] files...`

Show last revision where each line was modified.

`-D date`	*Annotate the most recent revision no later than* `date`
`-f`	*Use head revision if tag/date not found*
`-l`	*Local – run only in current working directory*
`-R`	*Operate recursively (default)*
`-r tag`	*Annotate revision* `tag`

`checkout [options] modules...`

Get a copy of the sources.

`-A`	*Reset any sticky tags/date/options*
`-c`	*Output the module database*
`-D date`	*Check out revisions as of* `date` *(sticky)*
`-d dir`	*Check out into* `dir`
`-f`	*Use head revision if tag/date not found*
`-j rev`	*Merge in changes*
`-k kflag`	*Use* `kflag` *keyword expansion*
`-l`	*Local – run only in current working directory*
`-N`	*Do not 'shorten' module paths if* `-d` *specified*
`-n`	*Do not run module program (if any)*
`-P`	*Prune empty directories*
`-p`	*Check out files to standard output (avoids stickiness)*
`-R`	*Operate recursively (default)*
`-r tag`	*Checkout revision* `tag` *(is sticky)*
`-s`	*Like* `-c`, *but include module status*

`commit [options] [files...]`

Check changes into the repository.

`-F file`	*Read log message from* `file`
`-f`	*Force the file to be committed; disables recursion*
`-l`	*Local – run only in current working directory*
`-m msg`	*Use* `msg` *as log message*
`-n`	*Do not run module program (if any)*
`-R`	*Operate recursively (default)*
`-r rev`	*Commit to* `rev`

`diff [options] files...`

Show differences between revisions. In addition to the options shown below, accepts a wide variety of options to control output style, for example `-c` *for context diffs.*

`-D date1`	*Diff revision for date against working file.*
`-D date2`	*Diff rev1/date1 against date2*
`-l`	*Local – run only in current working directory*
`-N`	*Include diffs for added and removed files*
`-R`	*Operate recursively (default)*
`-r rev1`	*Diff revision for rev1 against working file*
`-r rev2`	*Diff rev1/date1 against rev2*

`edit [options] [files...]`

Get ready to edit a watched file.

`-a actions`	*Specify actions for temporary watch, where* `actions` *is* `edit`, `unedit`, `commit`, `all`, *or* `none`
`-l`	*Local – run only in current working directory*
`-R`	*Operate recursively (default)*

`editors [options] [files...]`

See who is editing a watched file.

`-l`	*Local – run only in current working directory*
`-R`	*Operate recursively (default)*

`export [options] modules...`

Export files from CVS.

`-D` *date*	*Check out revisions as of* `date`
`-d` *dir*	*Check out into* `dir`
`-f`	*Use head revision if tag/date not found.*
`-k` *kflag*	*Use* `kflag` *keyword expansion*
`-l`	*Local – run only in current working directory*
`-N`	*Do not "shorten" module paths if* `-d` *specified*
`-n`	*Do not run module program (if any)*
`-P`	*Prune empty directories*
`-R`	*Operate recursively (default)*
`-r` *tag*	*Checkout revision* `tag`

history [*options*] [*files...*]

Show repository access history.

`-a`	*All users (default is self)*
`-b` *str*	*Back to record with* `str` *in module/file/repos field*
`-c`	*Report on committed (modified) files*
`-D` *date*	*Since* `date`
`-e`	*Report on all record types*
`-l`	*Last modified (committed or modified report)*
`-m` *module*	*Report on module (repeatable)*
`-n` *module*	*In module*
`-o`	*Report on checked out modules*
`-r` *rev*	*Since revision* `rev`
`-T`	*Produce report on all tags*
`-t` *tag*	*Since* `tag` *record placed in history file (by anyone)*
`-u` *user*	*For user* `user` *(repeatable)*
`-w`	*Working directory must match*
`-x` *types*	*Report on* `types`*, one or more of* `TOEFWUCGMAR`
`-z` *zone*	*Output for time zone* `zone`

import [*options*] *repository vendor-tag release-tags...*

Import files into CVS, using vendor branches.

`-b` *branch*	*Import to vendor branch* `branch`
`-d`	*Use the file's modification time as the time of import.*
`-k` *kflag*	*Set default keyword substitution mode*
`-m` *msg*	*Use* `msg` *for log message*
`-I` *ign*	*More files to ignore (! to reset)*
`-W` *spec*	*More wrappers*

init

Create a CVS repository if it doesn't exist.

log [*options*] [*files...*]

Print out history information for files.

`-b`	*Only list revisions on the default branch.*
`-d` *dates*	*Specify dates (d1 ¡ d2 for range, d for latest before)*
`-h`	*Only print header*
`-l`	*Local – run only in current working directory*
`-N`	*Do not list tags*
`-R`	*Only print name of RCS file*
`-r` *revs*	*Only list revisions* `revs`
`-s` *states*	*Only list revisions with specified states.*
`-t`	*Only print header and descriptive text*
`-w` *logins*	*Only list revisions checked in by specified logins*

login

Prompt for password for authenticating server.

logout

Remove stored password for authenticating server.

rdiff [*options*] *modules...*

Show differences between releases.

`-c`	*Context diff output format (default)*
`-D` *date*	*Select revisions based on* `date`
`-f`	*Use head revision if tag/date not found*
`-l`	*Local – run only in current working directory*
`-R`	*Operate recursively (default)*
`-r` *rev*	*Select revisions based on* `rev`
`-s`	*Short patch – one liner per file*
`-t`	*Top two diffs – last change made to the file*
`-u`	*Unidiff output format*

release [*options*] *directory*

Indicate that a directory is no longer in use.

`-d`	*Delete the given directory*

remove [*options*] [*files...*]

Remove an entry from the repository.

`-f`	*Delete the file before removing it*
`-l`	*Local – run only in current working directory*
`-R`	*Operate recursively (default)*

rtag [*options*] *tag modules...*

Add a symbolic tag to a module.

`-a`	*Clear tag from removed files that would not otherwise be tagged*
`-b`	*Create a branch named tag*
`-D` *date*	*Tag revisions as of* `date`
`-d`	*Delete tag*
`-F`	*Move tag if it already exists*
`-f`	*Force a head revision match if tag/date not found*
`-l`	*Local – run only in current working directory*
`-n`	*No execution of tag program*
`-R`	*Operate recursively (default)*
`-r` *rev*	*Tag existing tag* `rev`

status [*options*] *files...*

Display status information in a working directory.

`-l`	*Local – run only in current working directory.*
`-R`	*Operate recursively (default).*
`-v`	*Include tag information for file.*

tag [*options*] *tag* [*files...*]

Add a symbolic tag to checked out version of files.

`-b`	*Create a branch named tag.*
`-c`	*Check that working files are unmodified.*
`-D` *date*	*Tag revisions as of* `date`.
`-d`	*Delete tag.*
`-F`	*Move tag if it already exists.*
`-f`	*Force a head revision match if tag/date not found.*
`-l`	*Local – run only in current working directory.*
`-R`	*Operate recursively (default).*
`-r` *rev*	*Tag existing tag* `rev`.

unedit [*options*] [*files...*]

Undo an edit command.

`-a` *actions*	*Specify actions for temporary watch, where* `actions` *is* `edit`, `unedit`, `commit`, `all`, *or* `none`.
`-l`	*Local – run only in current working directory.*
`-R`	*Operate recursively (default).*

update [*options*] [*files...*]

Bring work tree in sync with repository.

`-A`	*Reset any sticky tags/date/options.*
`-D` *date*	*Check out revisions as of* `date` *(is sticky).*
`-d`	*Create directories.*
`-f`	*Use head revision if tag/date not found.*
`-I` *ign*	*More files to ignore (*`!` *to reset).*
`-j` *rev*	*Merge in changes.*
`-k` *kflag*	*Use* `kflag` *keyword expansion.*
`-l`	*Local – run only in current working directory.*
`-P`	*Prune empty directories.*
`-p`	*Check out files to standard output (avoids stickiness).*
`-R`	*Operate recursively (default).*
`-r` *tag*	*Checkout revision* `tag` *(is sticky).*
`-W` *spec*	*More wrappers.*

watch {**on**\|**off**\|**add**\|**remove**} [*options*] [*files...*]

Set notifications for files.

{`on`|`off`}	*Turn on/off read-only checkouts of files.*
{`add`|`remove`}	*Add or remove notification on actions.*
`-a` *actions*	*Specify actions for temporary watch, where* `actions` *is* `edit`, `unedit`, `commit`, `all`, *or* `none`.
`-l`	*Local – run only in current working directory.*
`-R`	*Operate recursively (default).*

watchers [*options*] [*files...*]

See who is watching a file.

`-l`	*Local – run only in current working directory.*
`-R`	*Operate recursively (default).*

Resources

`http://www.cvshome.com`	*CVS home page*
`http://www.refcards.com`	*Quick reference cards*

CVS Quick Reference Card
Revision 0.1 (draft) for CVS version 1.10 *[October 2000]*
A refcards.com *™ quick reference card*

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