NAME

rcp – remote file copy

SYNOPSIS

rcp [**–p**] *filename1 filename2*
rcp [**–pr**] *filename*. . .*directory*

AVAILABILITY

SUNWcsu

DESCRIPTION

The **rcp** command copies files between machines. Each *filename* or *directory* argument is either a remote file name of the form:

hostname:*path*

or a local file name (containing no **:** characters, or a **/** before any **:** characters).

If a *filename* is not a full path name, it is interpreted relative to your home directory on *hostname*. A *path* on a remote host may be quoted (using \ , " , or ') so that the metacharacters are interpreted remotely.

rcp does not prompt for passwords; your current local user name must exist on *hostname* and allow remote command execution by **rsh**(1).

rcp handles third party copies, where neither source nor target files are on the current machine. Hostnames may also take the form

username@hostname:*filename*

to use *username* rather than your current local user name as the user name on the remote host. **rcp** also supports Internet domain addressing of the remote host, so that:

username@host.*domain*:*filename*

specifies the username to be used, the hostname, and the domain in which that host resides. Filenames that are not full path names will be interpreted relative to the home directory of the user named *username*, on the remote host.

OPTIONS

–p Attempt to give each copy the same modification times, access times, modes, and ACLs if applicable as the original file. Note that the command may fail if ACLs are copied to a file system that doesn't support ACLs.

–r Copy each subtree rooted at *filename*; in this case the destination must be a directory.

FILES

$HOME/.profile

SEE ALSO

cpio(1), **ftp**(1), **setfacl**(1), **rlogin**(1), **rsh**(1), **tar**(1), **hosts.equiv**(4)

NOTES

rcp is meant to copy between different hosts; attempting to **rcp** a file onto itself, as with:

rcp tmp/file myhost:/tmp/file

results in a severely corrupted file.

rcp may not correctly fail when the target of a copy is a file instead of a directory.

rcp can become confused by output generated by commands in a **$HOME/.profile** on the remote host.

rcp requires that the source host have permission to execute commands on the remote host when doing third-party copies.

rcp does not properly handle symbolic links. Use **tar** (see **tar**(1)) or **cpio** (see **cpio**(1)) piped to **rsh** to obtain remote copies of directories containing symbolic links or named pipes.

If you forget to quote metacharacters intended for the remote host you get an incomprehensible error message.