NAME

alias, unalias – create or remove a pseudonym or shorthand for a command or series of commands

SYNOPSIS

/usr/bin/alias [*alias-name***[=***string***] . . .]**

/usr/bin/unalias *alias-name* **. . .**
/usr/bin/unalias -a

csh

alias [*name* [*def*]]

unalias *pattern*

ksh

alias [–**tx**] [*name*[=*value*]] . . .

unalias *name***. . .**

DESCRIPTION

/usr/bin/alias

The **alias** utility creates or redefines alias definitions or writes the values of existing alias definitions to standard output. An alias definition provides a string value that replaces a command name when it is encountered.

An alias definition affects the current shell execution environment and the execution environments of the subshells of the current shell. When used as specified by this document, the alias definition will not affect the parent process of the current shell nor any utility environment invoked by the shell.

/usr/bin/unalias

The **unalias** utility removes the definition for each alias name specified. The aliases are removed from the current shell execution environment.

csh

alias assigns *def* to the alias *name*. *def* is a list of words that may contain escaped history-substitution metasyntax. *name* is not allowed to be **alias** or **unalias**. If *def* is omitted, the alias *name* is displayed along with its current definition. If both *name* and *def* are omitted, all aliases are displayed.

Because of implementation restrictions, an alias definition must have been entered on a previous command line before it can be used.

unalias discards aliases that match (filename substitution) *pattern*. All aliases may be removed by '**unalias** ∗'.

ksh

alias with no arguments prints the list of aliases in the form *name=value* on standard output. An *alias* is defined for each name whose *value* is given. A trailing space in *value* causes the next word to be checked for alias substitution. The –**t** flag is used to set and list tracked aliases. The value of a tracked alias is the full pathname corresponding to the given *name*. The value becomes undefined when the value of **PATH** is reset but the aliases remained tracked. Without the –**t** flag, for each *name* in the argument list for which no *value* is given, the name and value of the alias is printed. The –**x** flag is used to set or print *exported alias*es. An *exported alias* is defined for scripts invoked by name. The exit status is non-zero if a *name* is given, but no value, and no alias has been defined for the *name*.

The *alias*es given by the list of *name*s may be removed from the *alias* list with **unalias**.

OPTIONS

The following option is supported by **unalias**:

−a Remove all alias definitions from the current shell execution environment.

OPERANDS

The following operands are supported:

alias

alias-name Write the alias definition to standard output.

unalias

alias-name The name of an alias to be removed.

alias-name=*string* Assign the value of *string* to the alias *alias-name*.

If no operands are given, all alias definitions will be written to standard output.

OUTPUT

The format for displaying aliases (when no operands or only *name* operands are specified) is:

"%s=%s\n" *name*, *value*

The *value* string will be written with appropriate quoting so that it is suitable for reinput to the shell.

EXAMPLES

1. Change **ls** to give a columnated, more annotated output:
   alias ls="ls −CF"
2. Create a simple “redo” command to repeat previous entries in the command history file:
   alias r=′fc −s′
3. Use 1K units for **du**:
   alias du=du\ −k
4. Set up **nohup** so that it can deal with an argument that is itself an alias name:
   alias nohup="nohup "

ENVIRONMENT

See **environ**(5) for descriptions of the following environment variables that affect the execution of **alias** and **unalias**: **LC_CTYPE**, **LC_MESSAGES**, and **NLSPATH**.

EXIT STATUS

The following exit values are returned:

0 Successful completion.

alias

>0 One of the *alias-name* operands specified did not have an alias definition, or an error occurred.

unalias

>0 One of the *alias-name* operands specified did not represent a valid alias definition, or an error occurred.

SEE ALSO

csh(1), **ksh**(1), **shell_builtins**(1), **environ**(5)