Tardy

Reference Manual

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This document describes Tardy version 1.28
and was prepared 23 March 2019.

This document describing the Tardy program, and the Tardy program itself, are
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NAME

tardy version 1.28 − a tar post-processor
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tardy *a.,* slow to act, behind time.

DESCRIPTION

The *tardy* program is a *tar*(1) post-processor. It may be used to manipulate the file headers in *tar*(5) archive files in various ways.

The reason the *tardy* program was written was because the author wanted to "spruce up" his tar files before posting them to the net, mostly to remove artefacts of the development environment, without introducing more.

The *tardy* program was designed to allow you to alter certain characteristics of files AFTER they have been included in the TAR file. Among them are:

- change file owner (by NUMBER or NAME)
- change file group (by NUMBER or NAME)
- add directory prefix (dot is a really useful prefix)
- change file protections (for example from 600 to 644)

Note that all of these affect ALL files in the archive.

BUILDING

Instructions on how to build and test the *tardy* program are to be found in the *BUILDING* file included in this distribution.

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RELEASE NOTES

Version 1.28 (2013-Jun-27)

• jari <jari.aalto@cante.net> discovered a false negative from test/00/t0075a.sh, causd by a difference in time zones.

• jari <jari.aalto@cante.net> discovered that three files were mysteriously absent from the tarball causing FTBFS.

• jari <jari.aalto@cante.net> discovered a problem in the download pages, causing the debian-less orig.tar.gz to be improperly linked.

Version 1.27 (2013-May-28)

- There is now a tarball on the web site with no debian/ directory, to make it easier for downstream packagers.
- There is now a debian/watch file, in main tarball.
- There is now a test tarballs > 2GB. This was fixed back in i1.25.D012 (12-Jun-2012). Debian: Closes: #659630

Version 1.26 (2012-Jul-09)

- The tardy(1) command now understands ZX compression for both reading and writing, symmetric with how it handles gzip comporession.
- A memory scribble deep within the string code has been fixed. It was related to how it split the hash table when growing the size.
- Tardy now uses 64-bit file sizes consistently.
- The tardy(1) command is now able to use bzip2 compression on input and output, symmetric with its gzip compression handling.
- Emanuel Haupt <ehaupt@FreeBSD.org> discovered an incorrect function prototype, that caused build problems on some 32-bit systems.
- Dagobert Michelsen <dam@opencsw.org> discovered that Solaris needs more #include <stdarg.h> lines.
- Dagobert Michelsen <dam@opencsw.org> discovered a build problem with the memmem replacement function.

Version 1.25 (2011-Nov-07)

- Dagobert Michelsen <dam@opencsw.org> discovered that several string functions were undeclared on Solaris, causing build problems; and that there was no replacement memmem() function for systems that didn't have one.

Version 1.24 (2011-Oct-03)

- The *tardy*(1) command is now more tolerant of *tar*(5) archives that contain regular files labeled LD_DIRECTORY instead of LD_NORMAL.

Version 1.23 (2011-Sep-09)

- Thomas <metaf4@users.askja.de> discovered that the V7 tar output was using an incorrect link flag when writing file headers for directories, causing *pax*(1) and *star*(1) to complain.
- Thomas <metaf4@users.askja.de> discovered that the BSD tar output was using an incorrect link flag when writing file headers for directories, causing *mc*(1) and *Xarchiver*(1) to complain.
- Dagobert Michelsen <dam@opencsw.org> discovered a build problem on systems without the *strverscmp*(3) function.

Version 1.22 (2011-May-14)

- Thomas <metaf4@users.askja.de> contributed a patch to detect reading from a terminal, or writing to a terminal. These are usually indications that the user has failed to supply a command line argument.
- Tardy is now able to read and write long file names in *ar*(1) archives.
- A bug has been fixed in the BSD ar(1) format archives, the file padding has been corrected to 2-byte boundaries.
- The *ar*(1) padding now uses newlines, to be compatible with GNU binutils.
- The ./configure script will now fail if libexplain has not been installed, rather than failing later in the build.

Version 1.21 (2011-Mar-21)

- Tardy is now able to automatically *gunzip*(1) input files *gzip*(1) output files.
- Tardy is now able to read and write several *ar*(1) file formats.
- Tardy is now able to read and write several *cpio*(1) file formats.
- There is a new tardy **−relative−paths** filter, it may be used to ensure that all file names in the archive are relative (do not start with a '/' slash character). This is tidier that the "**−prefix .**" alternative.
- Tardy now uses **libexplain** for improved error messages.
  http://libexplain.sourceforge.net/
- There is a new Tardy **−extract** option, that may be used to extract the contents of an archive, in any format that Tardy understands.
- Thomas <metaf4@users.askja.de> submitted a patch that added better output support for the USTAR archive format on.
- Jari Aalto <jari.aalto@cante.net> reported several spelling errors im the man page, these have been corrected.

Version 1.20 (2010-May-22)

- A build problem on FreeBSD has been fixed.
- A build problem on Debian has been fixed.

Version 1.19 (2010-Mar-10)

- The Makefile.in file has been fixed so the package now builds correctly. Additional support for building Debian packages has been added.

Version 1.18 (2009-Nov-29)

- Numerous build glitches and warnings have been fixed.
- There is a new tardy -exclude option that may be used to exclude (remove) files from the archive.

Version 1.17 (2008-Jun-23)

- A build problem with GCC 4.3 has been fixed [Gentoo Bug 226861].

Version 1.16 (2008-Apr-29)

- The tabs in the Makefile.in file have been fixed.

Version 1.15 (2008-Apr-14)

- The license has been updated to GNU GPL version 3.

Version 1.12 (2004-Aug-17)

- Tardy has a new home page, http://tardy.sourceforge.net/
- The tardy --remove-prefix option has been extended to accept a numeric argument, giving the count of directories to be removed.
- A bug has been fixed in the tardy --reomve-prefix option. If there is a directory named exactly for the prefix being removed, it is now renamed to "." rather than being left unaltered.
- The tar output has been altered to be consistent with GNU Tar 1.14 and later. As of GNU Tar 1.14, it warns if the block size on input is not what it expects. Tardy now uses the same default block size as GNU

Tar when writing tarballs, which silences the GNU Tar warning.

Version 1.11 (2002-Oct-20)

- A bug has been fixed with the processing of very long directory names.

Version 1.10 (2002-Oct-16)

- Some documentation errors have been corrected.
- Some build problems have been fixed.

Version 1.9 (27-Aug-2001)

- A number fo build problems have been fixed.
- Support has been added for long names.

Version 1.8 (24-Oct-2001)

- The generated *Makefile.in* file was missing some dependencies. This has been fixed.

Version 1.7 (23-Oct-2001)

- A number of files were missing from the tarball. These have been added.

Version 1.6 (23-Oct-2001)

- Build and test problems caused by the recent RH7 release have been fixed.

Version 1.5 (13-Sep-2000)

- Tardy has been entirely re-written in C++.
- Tardy now understands cpio formats in addition to tar formats.
- Tardy now comes with an RPM package spec.

Version 1.4 (1998-Jan-25)

Never had a public release.

Version 1.3

Never had a public release.

Version 1.2

- This version of tardy now uses a GNU autoconf generated *configure* script to automatically configure the tardy program.

NAME

How to build Tardy

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tardy *a.,* slow to act, behind time.

BEFORE YOU START

There are a few pieces of software you may want to fetch and install before you proceed with your installation of Tardy.

Boost Library
: You will need the C++ Boost Library. If you are using a package based system, you will need the libboost-devel package, or one named something very similar.
http://boost.org/

BZ2 library
: You will need the bzip2 library. If you are using a package based system, you will need the libbz2-devel package, or one named something very similar.

LZMA library
: You will need the lzma library, for .xz compression. If you are using a package based system, you will need the liblzma-devel package, or one named something very similar.

cpio
: The test suite uses the *cpio*(1) command to create CPIO archives for testing.

GNU Groff
: The documentation for the *Tardy* package was prepared using the GNU Groff package (version 1.14 or later). This distribution includes full documentation, which may be processed into PostScript or DVI files at install time – if GNU Groff has been installed.

GCC
: You may also want to consider fetching and installing the GNU C Compiler if you have not done so already. This is not essential. Tardy was developed using the GNU C++ compiler, and the GNU C++ libraries.

libexplain
: The *libexplain* project provides a library if system-call-specific sterror(3) replacements, for more informative error messages.
http://libexplain.sourceforge.net/

zlib
: zlib is a library implementing the deflate compression method (and inflate decompression method) found in *gzip*(1) and PKZIP.
http://zlib.net/

SITE CONFIGURATION

The **tardy** program is configured using the *configure* shell script included in this distribution.

The *configure* shell script attempts to guess correct values for various system-dependent variables used during compilation, and creates the *Makefile* and *libtardy/config.h* files. It also creates a shell script *config.status* that you can run in the future to recreate the current configuration.

Normally, you just *cd* to the directory containing *tardy*'s source code and type

```
% ./configure
...lots of output...
%
```

If you're using *csh* on an old version of System V, you might need to type

```
% sh configure
...lots of output...
%
```

instead to prevent *csh* from trying to execute *configure* itself.

Running *configure* takes a minute or two. While it is running, it prints some messages that tell what it is doing. If you don't want to see the messages, run *configure* using the --quiet option; for example,

```
% ./configure --quiet
%
```

By default, *configure* will arrange for the *make install* command to install the **tardy** program's files in */usr/local/bin* and */usr/local/man*. You can specify an installation prefix other than */usr/local* by giving *configure* the option `--prefix=`*PATH*.

You can specify separate installation prefixes for architecture-specific files and architecture-independent files. If you give *configure* the option `--exec-prefix=`*PATH* the **tardy** package will use *PATH* as the prefix for installing programs and libraries. Data files and documentation will still use the regular prefix. Normally, all files are installed using the same prefix.

configure ignores any other arguments that you give it.

On systems that require unusual options for compilation or linking that the *tardy* package's *configure* script does not know about, you can give *configure* initial values for variables by setting them in the environment. In Bourne-compatible shells, you can do that on the command line like this:

```
$ CC='gcc -traditional' LIBS=-lposix ./configure
...lots of output...
$
```

Here are the *make* variables that you might want to override with environment variables when running *configure*.

Variable: CC
: C compiler program. The default is *cc*.

Variable: INSTALL
: Program to use to install files. The default is *install* if you have it, *cp* otherwise.

Variable: LIBS
: Libraries to link with, in the form `-l`*foo* `-l`*bar*. The *configure* script will append to this, rather than replace it.

If you need to do unusual things to compile the package, the author encourages you to figure out how *configure* could check whether to do them, and mail diffs or instructions to the author so that they can be included in the next release.

BUILDING TARDY

All you should need to do is use the

```
% make
...lots of output...
%
```

command and wait. When this finishes you should see a directory called *bin* containing one file: *tardy*. The *tardy* program is a tar post-processor.

You can remove the program binaries and object files from the source directory by using the

```
% make clean
...lots of output...
%
```

command. To remove all of the above files, and also remove the *Makefile* and *libtardy/config.h* and *config.status* files, use the

```
% make distclean
...lots of output...
%
```

command.

The file *etc/configure.ac* is used to create *configure* by a GNU program called *autoconf*. You only need to know this if you want to regenerate *configure* using a newer version of *autoconf*.

TESTING TARDY

The *tardy* program comes with a test suite. To run this test suite, use the command

```
% make sure
...lots of output...
Passed All Tests
%
```

The tests take a about a minute each, with a few very fast, and a couple very slow, but it varies greatly depending on your CPU.

INSTALLING TARDY

The *tardy* program is installed under the */usr/local* tree by default. Use the `--prefix=`*PATH* option to *configure* if you want some other path.

All that is required to install the *tardy* program is to use the

```
% make install
...lots of output...
%
```

command. Control of the directories used may be found in the first few lines of the *Makefile* file if you want to bypass the *configure* script.

The above procedure assumes that the *soelim*(1) command is somewhere in the command search *PATH*. The *soelim*(1) command is available as part of the *GNU Roff* package.

The above procedure also assumes that the *$(prefix)/man/man1* and *$(prefix)/man/man5* directories already exist. If they do not, you will need to *mkdir* them manually.

PRINTED MANUALS

This distribution contains the sources to all of the documentation for *tardy*. The author used the GNU groff package and a postscript printer to prepare the documentation. If you do not have this software, you will need to substitute commands appropriate to your site.

To print copies of the *README*, and *BUILDING* files, the following commands may be used

```
% groff -t -man etc/*.man | lpr
%
```

This will produce about 4 pages. The "-t" flag means preprocess with *tbl*(1).

To print copies of the manual entry, the following commands may be used

```
% cd man1
% groff -s -t -man *.1 | lpr
% cd ..
%
```

This will produce about 3 pages. The "-s" flag means preprocess with *soelim*(1), and the "-t" flag means preprocess with *tbl*(1).

GETTING HELP

If you need assistance with the *tardy* program, please do not hesitate to contact the author at

Peter Miller <pmiller@opensource.org.au>

Any and all feedback is welcome.

When reporting problems, please include the version number given by the

```
% tardy -version
tardy version a.b.cccc
...
%
```

command.

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NAME

tardy − a tar post-processor

SYNOPSIS

tardy [*option...*][*infile* [*outfile*]]
tardy −Help
tardy −VERSion

DESCRIPTION

The *tardy* program is used to manipulate the file headers within archive files. Supported archive formats include *tar*(1), *cpio*(1) and *ar*(1).

This is useful when preparing sources for Internet archive sites, and you don't want to included details of your development environment in the *tar*(1) file.

One of the most useful features is the ability to add a prefix to the names of the files within the *tar*(1) file. An example is adding the prefix "./", for when you have a *tar*(1) file with absolute paths in it, and need to extract the file with relative paths.

The GNU tar format headers are understood, including extended names.

If no input file is named, or the special name "−" is used, input will be read from the standard input. Similarly, if no output file is named, or the special name "-" is used, output will be written to the standard output. Note that *tardy* will refuse to read from or write to a terminal, as this indicates that the user has made a mistake.

If the input is in *gzip*(1) format, it will be automatically *gunzip*(1)ed before processing. Similarly, if the output file name indicates that *gzip*(1) should be used, this will be done automatically on output.

OPTIONS

The following options are understood:

−Block_Size *number*
: This option many be used to specify the block size, as a multiple of 512 bytes. The default is `-bs=20` resulting in a 10kB block size.

−Clean_Meta
: This option may be used to ensure that file names do not contain shell meta characters. If any are found, they are replaced by a hyphen (−) character. Warning: duplicate file names may result.

-Clean_Print
: This option may be used to ensure that file names only contain printable ASCII characters. If any non-printable characters are found, they are replaced by a hyphen (−) character. Warning: duplicate file names may result.

−Clean_Space
: This option may be used to ensure that file names contain no white space characters. If any are found, they are replaced by a hyphen (−) character. Warning: duplicate file names may result.

−Clean
: This option is a terse way of specifying all of the above 3 options.

−DownCase
: This option may be used to force file names to be all lower case. Warning: duplicate file names may result.

−EXclude *pattern*
: This option may be used to completely remove files from the archive. All files that have a filename patching the given shell filename pattern will be removed. Be careful with wild cards, they match everything, including slash (/) characters. The exclude pattern is applied before all filename manipulating patterns.

–eXtract
This option may be used to extract the contents of an archive.

–Group *arg*
This option may be used to set both the group name and group number fields in the header of every file in the archive file. The argument may be either a string or a number. It is an error if a corresponding entry cannot be found in the */etc/group* file.

-Group_NAme *string*
This option is used to set the group name field in the header of every file in the archive file. The string may be any arbitrary string, it is not restricted to a known group.

–Group_NAme *number*
This option is used to set the group name field in the header of every file in the archive file. The number is mapped to a group name through the */etc/group* file. It is an error if a corresponding group cannot be found.

–Group_NUmber *string*
This option is used to set the group number field in the header of every file in the archive file. The string is mapped to a group number through the */etc/group* file. It is an error if a corresponding group cannot be found.

–Group_NUmber *number*
This option is used to set the group number field in the header of every file in the archive file. The number may be any arbitrary number, it is not restricted to a known group.

–Help
This option may be used to obtain more information about how to use the *tardy* program.

–Input_ForMaT *name*
By default, the input file is examined to automatically detect the input archive file's format. This option may be used to specify the input format to be used. The input format *name*s are

tar This format understands all of the various *tar*(1) formats. This is the default.

tar-bsd This format expects BSD *tar*(1) archives.

ustar This format expects *ustar*(1) format archives.

list The input is a text file which contains one file name per line. The named files are read as if they were the input. It is common for *find*(1) to be used to form the list of file names.

directory
The input is a text file which contains one file name per line. The named files are read as if they were an archive input. If any directories are found, they will be descended recursively.

cpio The file is expected to be in one of the *cpio*(5) formats, and will be examined to figure out which.

cpio-bin This format expects *cpio*(5) "old binary" format archives.

cpio-crc This format expects *cpio*(5) "crc" format archives.

cpio-new-ascii
This format expects *cpio*(5) "new ascii" format archives.

cpio-old-ascii
This format expects *cpio*(5) "old ascii" format archives.

ar The file is expected to be in one of the *ar*(1) formats, and will be examined to figure out which.

ar-bsd This format expects *ar*(1) "BSD" format archives.

ar-pdp11
: This format expects *ar*(1) archives, in the ancient pre-V7 format.

ar-v7
: This format expects *ar*(1) "Unix Version 7" format archives.

Any other format name will produce an error.

–List
: Give a terse listing of the file headers on the standard error as they are written to the output.

–Mode_Clear *bits*
: This option may be used to set the mode of each file in the archive file. The *bits* specified are cleared in the mode. You should use an octal number with a leading zero as the argument; if you omit the leading zero it will be interpreted as decimal. The **–Mode_Set** option is applied first, the **–Mode_Clear** option is applied second; if neither is specified the mode of each file is unaltered.

–Mode_Set *bits*
: This option may be used to set the mode of each file in the archive file. The *bits* specified are set in the mode. You should use an octal number with a leading zero as the argument; if you omit the leading zero it will be interpreted as decimal.

–No_Directories
: This option may be used to suppress directories from the output. This can be useful when the archive has been created with directories in useless modes.

–Now
: Set the last-time-modified field of the headers to the current time, all files will be given the same time.

–Old_Type
: By default, tardy corrects the old normal file type into the modern normal file type. This option requests that old normal file type indicators remain unaltered.

–Output_ForMaT *name*
: By default, *tardy* tries to write the same format on output as it sees on input. This option may be used to specify the output format to be used. The output format *name*s are

  ar
  : The archive will be written using the *ar*(1) format, BSD variant. Note that this format only supports simple files; it silently discards directories, and even discards directory portions of file names.

  ar-bsd
  : The archive will be written using the *ar*(1) format, BSD variant. Long file names are handled by a special file at the start of the archive full of file names.

  ar-bsd-l2
  : The archive will be written using the *ar*(1) format, BSD variant. Long file names are handled by special file name mangling in the archive, with the actual file name transparently injected into the start of the file data.

  ar-pdp11
  : The archive will be written using the *ar*(1) format, in the most ancient pre-V7 variant. (There are also *ar-pdp11-le* and *ar-pdp11-le* names, if you need to select the byte order.)

  ar-port5
  : The archive will be written using the *ar*(1) format, in the PORT5 variant. (There are also *ar-port5-le* and *ar-port5-le* names, if you need to select the byte order.)

  ar-v7
  : The archive will be written using the *ar*(1) format, ancient Unix Version 7 variant. (There are also *ar-v7-le* and

  posix
  : The format that GNU tar uses.

  tar-bsd
  : The format that BSD *tar*(1) uses.

cpio The new *cpio*(5) ASCII format.

cpio-bin The *cpio*(5) "old binary" format, using host byte order.

cpio-bin-le
The *cpio*(5) "old binary" format, using littl--endian byte order.

cpio-bin-be
The *cpio*(5) "old binary" format, using big-endian byte order.

cpio-crc The *cpio*(5) "crc ascii" format.

cpio-old-ascii
The old *cpio*(5) ASCII format.

ustar This is the format that Joerg Schilling's *ustar*(1) uses.

v7 The ancient UNIX V7 *tar*(1) format.

Any other format name will produce an error.

−Prefix *string*
This option is used to add a prefix directory name to the name of every file in the archive file.

−PROgress
This option is used to obtain a progress indicator. Only works in combination with the *−ifmt=list* option.

−Remove_Prefix *number*
This option is used to remove a number of leading directories from the name of every file in the archive file, if present. The prefixes will be removed before any prefix specified by the **−Prefix** option is prepended.

−Remove_Prefix *string*
This option is used to remove a prefix directory name from the name of every file in the archive file, if present. This option may be given more than once, and as many of the prefixes as appear will be removed. The prefixes will be removed before any prefix specified by the **−Prefix** option is prepended.

This option is potentially ambiguous with the preceding option, if you wish to remove a leading prefix which looks like a number. If this is the case, add a slash ("/") to the end of the prefix to stop it looking like a number.

−UpCase
This option may be used to force file names to be all upper case. Warning: duplicate file names may result.

−User *arg*
This option may be used to set both the user name and user number fields in the header of every file in the archive file. The argument may be either a string or a number. It is an error if a corresponding entry cannot be found in the */etc/passwd* file.

−User_NAme *string*
This option is used to set the user name field in the header of every file in the archive file. The string may be any arbitrary string, it is not restricted to a known user.

−User_NAme *number*
This option is used to set the user name field in the header of every file in the archive file. The number is mapped to a user name through the */etc/passwd* file. It is an error if a corresponding user cannot be found.

−User_NUmber *string*
This option is used to set the user number field in the header of every file in the archive file. The string is mapped to a user number through the */etc/passwd* file. It is an error if a corresponding user cannot be found.

−User_NUmber *number*
This option is used to set the user number field in the header of every file in the archive file. The number may be any arbitrary number, it is not restricted to a known user.

−VERSion
Print the version of the *tardy* program being executed.

All options may be abbreviated; the abbreviation is documented as the upper case letters, all lower case letters and underscores (_) are optional. You must use consecutive sequences of optional letters.

All options are case insensitive, you may type them in upper case or lower case or a combination of both, case is not important.

For example: the arguments "−help", "−HELP" and "−h" are all interpreted to mean the **−Help** option. The argument "-hlp" will not be understood, because consecutive optional characters were not supplied.

Options and other command line arguments may be mixed arbitrarily on the command line, after the function selectors.

The GNU long option names are understood. Since all option names for *tardy* are long, this means ignoring the extra leading '-'. The "**--***option***=***value*" convention is also understood.

EXIT STATUS

The *tardy* command will exit with a status of 1 on any error. The *tardy* command will only exit with a status of 0 if there are no errors.

SEE ALSO

ar(1) Create, modify, and extract from archives

ar(5) Format of *ar*(1) archive files (not all systems have this man page).

cpio(1) Copy files to and from archives

cpio(5) Format of *cpio*(1) archive files

find(1) Search for files in a directory hierarchy

tar(1) Store and extract files from a tape or disk archive

tar(5) Format of *tar*(1) archive files

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