

# Command Reference (CMD/4OS/2)

- [About Command reference](#)
- [The Command Line](#)
  - [Command-Line Editing](#)
  - [Command History and Recall](#)
  - [Command History Window](#)
  - [Command Names and Parameters](#)
  - [Filename Completion](#)
  - [Automatic Directory Changes](#)
  - [Directory History Window](#)
    - [Local and Global Directory History](#)
  - [Multiple Commands](#)
  - [Expanding and Disabling Aliases](#)
  - [Command Line Help](#)
  - [Command-Line Length Limits](#)
- [File Selection](#)
  - [Extended Parent Directory Names](#)
  - [Wildcards](#)
  - [Ranges](#)
    - [Date, Time, and Size Ranges](#)
      - [Date Ranges](#)
      - [Time Ranges](#)
      - [Size Ranges](#)
    - [File Exclusion Ranges](#)
  - [Multiple Filenames](#)
  - [Include Lists](#)
  - [Executable Extensions](#)
- [Directory Navigation](#)
  - [Extended Directory Searches](#)
  - [CDPATH](#)
- [Other Features](#)
  - [Page and File Prompts](#)
  - [Redirection and Piping](#)
    - [Redirection](#)
    - [Piping](#)
  - [Using the Keystack](#)
  - [Waiting for Applications to Finish](#)
  - [Critical Errors](#)
  - [Conditional Commands](#)
  - [Command Grouping](#)
  - [Escape Character](#)
- [Internal Commands](#)
  - [?](#) - List the internal commands
  - [ACTIVATE](#) - Activate a window
  - [ALIAS](#) - Create or display aliases
  - [ATTRIB](#) - Change or view file attributes
  - [BEEP](#) - Beep the speaker
  - [CALL](#) - Execute one batch file from another
  - [CANCEL](#) - Terminate batch file processing

- **CD** - Change the current directory
- **CDD** - Change the current drive and directory
- **CHCP** - Change the current code page
- **CLS** - Clear the screen
- **COLOR** - Change the display colors
- **COPY** - Copy files
- **DATE** - Change the system date
- **DEL** - Delete one or more files
- **DELAY** - Pause for a specified length of time
- **DESCRIBE** - Create or modify file descriptions
- **DETACH** - Start a program in detached mode
- **DIR** - Display directories
- **DIRHISTORY** - Display, read, or modify the directory history list
- **DIRS** - Display the directory stack
- **DO** - Create loops in batch files
- **DPATH** - Set the data search path
- **DRAWBOX** - Draw a box
- **DRAWHLINE** - Draw a horizontal line
- **DRAWVLINE** - Draw a vertical line
- **ECHO** and **ECHOERR** - Display a message / set echo state
- **ECHOS** and **ECHOSERR** - Display a message without CR/LF
- **ENDLOCAL** - Restore the saved environment
- **ESET** - Edit environment variables and aliases
- **EXCEPT** - Exclude files from a command
- **EXIT** - Exit CMD.EXE
- **FFIND** - Search for files
- **FOR** - Repeat a command
- **FREE** - Display total and free disk space
- **GLOBAL** - Execute a command all subdirectories
- **GOSUB** - Execute a subroutine in a batch file
- **GOTO** - Branch within a batch file
- **HELP** - Display help
- **HISTORY** - Manage the history list
- **IF** - Execute a command if a condition is true
- **IFF** - **IF** / **THEN** / **ELSE** conditional command execution
- **INKEY** - Get a character from the keyboard
- **INPUT** - Get a string from the keyboard
- **KEYBD** - Set the keyboard toggles
- **KEYS** - Enable or disable the history list
- **KEYSTACK** - Feed keystrokes to a program or command
- **LIST** - Display a file
- **LOADBTM** - Switch a batch file's mode
- **LOG** - Save a log of commands
- **MD** - Create a subdirectory
- **MEMORY** - Display memory statistics
- **MOVE** - Move files
- **ON** - Handle Ctrl-Break and errors in batch files
- **OPTION** - Modify the command processor configuration
- **PATH** - Set the executable file search path
- **PAUSE** - Suspend batch file or alias execution
- **POPD** - Restore the disk drive and directory

- [PROMPT](#) - Change the command-line prompt
- [PUSHD](#) - Save the disk drive and directory
- [QUIT](#) - Terminate a batch file
- [RD](#) - Remove subdirectories
- [REBOOT](#) - Reboot the system
- [REM](#) - Put a comment in a batch file
- [REN](#) - Rename files or subdirectories
- [RETURN](#) - Return from a subroutine in a batch file
- [SCREEN](#) - Position the cursor and display text
- [SCRPUT](#) - Display text in color
- [SELECT](#) - Select files for a command
- [SET](#) - Create or modify environment variables
- [SETDOS](#) - Set the CMD.EXE configuration
- [SETLOCAL](#) - Save the environment
- [SHIFT](#) - Shift batch file parameters
- [SHRALIAS](#) - Load or unload SHRALIAS.EXE
- [START](#) - Start a program in another session
- [SWITCH](#) - Select commands based on a value
- [TEE](#) - "Tee" pipe fitting
- [TEXT](#) - Display text in a batch file
- [TIME](#) - Set the system time
- [TIMER](#) - Start or stop a stopwatch
- [TITLE](#) - Window title
- [TOUCH](#) - Change date and time stamps
- [TREE](#) - Directory tree
- [TYPE](#) - Display file(s)
- [UNALIAS](#) - Remove aliases
- [UNSET](#) - Remove environment variables
- [VER](#) - Display the CMD.EXE and OS/2 version
- [VERIFY](#) - Enable or disable disk write verification
- [VOL](#) - Display disk volume labels
- [VSCRPUT](#) - Display text vertically and in color
- [WINDOW](#) - Change the window state or title
- [Y](#) - "Y" pipe fitting
- [External Commands](#)
- [Aliases](#)
- [Batch Files](#)
  - [.BAT, .CMD, and .BTM Files](#)
  - [Echoing in Batch Files](#)
  - [Batch File Parameters](#)
  - [Using Environment Variables](#)
  - [Batch File Commands](#)
  - [Interrupting a Batch File](#)
  - [Automatic Batch Files](#)
  - [Detecting CMD.EXE](#)
  - [Using Aliases in Batch Files](#)
  - [Debugging Batch Files](#)
  - [Batch File String Processing](#)
  - [Batch File Line Continuation](#)
  - [Batch File Compression](#)
  - [Special Character Compatibility](#)

- Command Parsing
- Argument Quoting
- REXX Support
- EXTPROC Support
- Environment Variables and Functions
  - CDPATH
  - cmdline
  - COLORDIR
  - COMSPEC
  - FILECOMPLETION
  - PATH
  - PATHEXT
  - PROMPT
  - Internal Variables
    - ?
    - \_?
    - =
    - +
    - \_4VER
    - \_ANSI
    - \_APMAC
    - \_APMBATT
    - \_APMLIFE
    - \_BATCH
    - \_BATCHLINE
    - \_BATCHNAME
    - \_BG
    - \_BOOT
    - \_CI
    - \_CMDPROC
    - \_CO
    - \_CODEPAGE
    - \_COLUMN
    - \_COLUMNS
    - \_COUNTRY
    - \_CPU
    - \_CWD
    - \_CWDS
    - \_CWP
    - \_CWPS
    - \_DATE
    - \_DAY
    - \_DISK
    - \_DNAME
    - \_DOS
    - \_DOSVER
    - \_DOW
    - \_DOWI
    - \_DOY
    - \_FG
    - \_HLOGFILE

- \_HOUR
- \_KBHIT
- \_LASTDISK
- \_LOGFILE
- \_MINUTE
- \_MONITOR
- \_MONTH
- \_MOUSE
- \_NDP
- \_PID
- \_PIPE
- \_PPID
- \_PTYPE
- \_ROW
- \_ROWS
- \_SECOND
- \_SHELL
- \_SID
- \_SYSERR
- \_TIME
- \_TRANSIENT
- \_VIDEO
- \_WINTITLE
- \_XPIXELS
- \_YEAR
- \_YPIXELS
- Variable Functions
  - @ALIAS
  - @ASCII
  - @ATTRIB
  - @CDROM
  - @CHAR
  - @CLIP
  - @COMMA
  - @CONVERT
  - @DATE
  - @DAY
  - @DEC
  - @DESCRIPT
  - @DEVICE
  - @DISKFREE
  - @DISKTOTAL
  - @DISKUSED
  - @DOSMEM
  - @DOW
  - @DOWI
  - @DOY
  - @EAREAD
  - @EAWRITE
  - @EVAL
  - @EXEC

- @EXECSTR
- @EXETYPE
- @EXPAND
- @EXT
- @FILEAGE
- @FILECLOSE
- @FILEDATE
- @FILENAME
- @FILEOPEN
- @FILEREAD
- @FILES
- @FILESEEK
- @FILESEEKL
- @FILESIZE
- @FILETIME
- @FILEWRITE
- @FILEWRITEB
- @FINDCLOSE
- @FINDFIRST
- @FINDNEXT
- @FORMAT
- @FSTYPE
- @FULL
- @IF
- @INC
- @INDEX
- @INSERT
- @INSTR
- @INT
- @LABEL
- @LEFT
- @LEN
- @LINE
- @LINES
- @LOWER
- @MAKEAGE
- @MAKEDATE
- @MAKETIME
- @MONTH
- @NAME
- @NUMERIC
- @PATH
- @RANDOM
- @READSCR
- @READY
- @REMOTE
- @REMOVABLE
- @REPEAT
- @REPLACE
- @REXX
- @RIGHT

- @SEARCH
- @SELECT
- @STRIP
- @SUBSTR
- @TIME
- @TIMER
- @TRIM
- @UNIQUE
- @UPPER
- @WILD
- @WORD
- @WORDS
- @YEAR
- CMD.INI
  - Modifying the .INI File
  - Using the .INI File
  - .INI File Sections
  - .INI File Directives
    - Initialization Directives
      - 4StartPath
      - DirHistory (directive)
      - DuplicateBugs
      - HelpBook
      - History (directive)
      - INIQuery
      - LocalAliases
      - LocalDirHistory
      - LocalHistory
      - PauseOnError
      - SwapFilePath
      - TreePath
      - WindowState
      - WindowX, WindowY, WindowWidth, WindowHeight
    - Configuration Directives
      - AmPm
      - AppendToDir
      - BatchEcho
      - BeepFreq
      - BeepLength
      - CDDWinLeft, CDDWinTop, CDDWinWidth, CDDWinHeight
      - CommandSep
      - CursorIns
      - CursorOver
      - DecimalChar
      - DescriptionMax
      - DescriptionName
      - Descriptions
      - EditMode
      - EscapeChar
      - EvalMax
      - EvalMin

- ExecWait
- FileCompletion
- FuzzyCD
- HistCopy
- HistLogName
- HistMin
- HistMove
- HistWrap
- LineInput
- ListRowStart
- LogName
- NoClobber
- ParameterChar
- PathExt
- PopupWinLeft, PopupWinTop, PopupWinWidth, PopupWinHeight
- Printer
- ScreenRows
- TabStops
- ThousandsChar
- UnixPaths
- UpperCase
- Color Directives
  - BrightBG
  - CDDWinColors
  - ColorDir
  - InputColors
  - ListboxBarColors
  - ListColors
  - ListStatBarColors
  - PopupWinColors
  - SelectColors
  - SelectStatBarColors
  - StdColors
- Key Mapping Directives
  - General Input Keys
    - Backspace
    - BeginLine
    - Del
    - DelToBeginning
    - DelToEnd
    - DelWordLeft
    - DelWordRight
    - Down
    - EndLine
    - EraseLine
    - ExecLine
    - Ins
    - Left
    - NormalKey
    - Right
    - Up



- WordLeft
  - WordRight
- Command-Line Editing Keys
  - AddFile
  - AliasExpand
  - CommandEscape
  - DelHistory
  - EndHistory
  - Help
  - LineToEnd
  - NextFile
  - NextHistory
  - NormalEditKey
  - PopFile
  - PrevFile
  - PrevHistory
  - SaveHistory
- Popup Window Keys
  - DirWinOpen
  - HistWinOpen
  - NormalPopupKey
  - PopupWinBegin
  - PopupWinDel
  - PopupWinEdit
  - PopupWinEnd
  - PopupWinExec
- LIST Keys
  - ListExit
  - ListFind
  - ListFindReverse
  - ListHex
  - ListHighBit
  - ListInfo
  - ListNext
  - ListPrevious
  - ListPrint
  - ListWrap
  - NormalListKey
- Advanced Directives
  - ClearKeyMap
  - Debug
  - Include
  - NextINIFile
- .INI File Examples
- Setup and Troubleshooting
  - Starting CMD.EXE
  - The CMD.EXE Help System
  - Error Messages
  - Troubleshooting, Service, and Support
    - Technical Support
    - Contacting JP Software

- [What's New?](#)
  - [General Features and Enhancements](#)
  - [Command Line Editing](#)
    - [Command Changes](#)
    - [Variables and Functions](#)
    - [Startup and Configuration](#)
    - [Technical and Compatibility Enhancements](#)
    - [Bugs Fixed](#)
- [Reference Information](#)
  - [File Systems and File Name Conventions](#)
    - [Drives and Volumes](#)
    - [File Systems](#)
    - [Directories and Subdirectories](#)
    - [File Names](#)
    - [File Attributes and Time Stamps](#)
  - [Miscellaneous Reference Information](#)
    - [Colors and Color Names](#)
    - [Keys and Key Names](#)
    - [Popup Windows](#)
    - [Executable Files and File Searches](#)
  - [Reference Tables](#)
    - [ASCII Table](#)
    - [Key Codes and Scan Codes Table](#)
    - [Key Codes and Scan Codes Explanation](#)
    - [ANSI Codes](#)
  - [Glossary](#)
    - [Glossary - 4](#)
    - [Glossary - A](#)
    - [Glossary - B](#)
    - [Glossary - C](#)
    - [Glossary - D](#)
    - [Glossary - E](#)
    - [Glossary - F](#)
    - [Glossary - G](#)
    - [Glossary - H](#)
    - [Glossary - I](#)
    - [Glossary - K](#)
    - [Glossary - L](#)
    - [Glossary - M](#)
    - [Glossary - N](#)
    - [Glossary - O](#)
    - [Glossary - P](#)
    - [Glossary - R](#)
    - [Glossary - S](#)
    - [Glossary - T](#)
    - [Glossary - U](#)
    - [Glossary - V](#)
    - [Glossary - W](#)
    - [Glossary - X](#)

- Created using Inf-PHP v.1 © 2003 [Yuri Prokushev](#)

- Created using Inf-HTML v.0.9b © 1995 [Peter Childs](#)

From:

<https://cocorico.osfree.org/doku/> - **osFree wiki**

Permanent link:

<https://cocorico.osfree.org/doku/doku.php?id=en:ibm:cmd:index&rev=1403644033>

Last update: **2014/06/24 21:07**

