

NAME

help2man – generate a simple manual page

SYNOPSIS

help2man [*OPTION*]... *EXECUTABLE*

DESCRIPTION

‘help2man’ generates a man page out of ‘**—help**’ and ‘**—version**’ output.

–n, --name=STRING

description for the NAME paragraph

–s, --section=SECTION

section number for manual page (1, 6, 8)

–m, --manual=TEXT

name of manual (User Commands, ...)

–S, --source=TEXT

source of program (FSF, Debian, ...)

–L, --locale=STRING

select locale (default "C")

–i, --include=FILE

include material from ‘FILE’

–I, --opt-include=FILE

include material from ‘FILE’ if it exists

–o, --output=FILE

send output to ‘FILE’

–p, --info-page=TEXT

name of Texinfo manual

–N, --no-info

suppress pointer to Texinfo manual

–help print this help, then exit

–version

print version number, then exit

EXECUTABLE should accept ‘**—help**’ and ‘**—version**’ options although alternatives may be specified using:

–h, --help-option=STRING

help option string

–v, --version-option=STRING

version option string

INCLUDE FILES

Additional material may be included in the generated output with the **–include** and **–opt-include** options. The format is simple:

```
[section]
text
```

```
/pattern/
text
```

Blocks of verbatim **roff* text are inserted into the output either at the start of the given *[section]* (case insensitive), or after a paragraph matching */pattern/*.

Patterns use the Perl regular expression syntax and may be followed by the *i*, *s* or *m* modifiers (see **perlre(1)**).

Lines before the first section or pattern which begin with ‘—’ are processed as options. Anything else is silently ignored and may be used for comments, RCS keywords and the like.

The section output order is:

NAME
SYNOPSIS
DESCRIPTION
OPTIONS
EXAMPLES
other
AUTHOR
REPORTING BUGS
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SEE ALSO

Any **[name]** or **[synopsis]** sections appearing in the include file will replace what would have automatically been produced (although you can still override the former with **--name** if required).

Other sections are prepended to the automatically produced output for the standard sections given above, or included at *other* (above) in the order they were encountered in the include file.

AVAILABILITY

The latest version of this distribution is available on-line from:

<ftp://ftp.gnu.org/gnu/help2man/>

AUTHOR

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REPORTING BUGS

Report bugs to <bug-help2man@gnu.org>.

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SEE ALSO

The full documentation for **help2man** is maintained as a Texinfo manual. If the **info** and **help2man** programs are properly installed at your site, the command

info help2man

should give you access to the complete manual.