

**NAME**

*ar* – archive and library maintainer (*nar* for cross-support)

**SYNOPSIS**

**ar** key [ posname ] *afile name* ...

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**DESCRIPTION**

*Ar* maintains groups of files combined into a single archive file. Its main use is to create and update library files as used by the loader. It can be used, though, for any similar purpose. **Note:** This version of *ar* uses an ASCII-format archive which is portable among the various machines running Berkeley - derived versions of UNIX.

*Key* is one character from the set **drqtpmx**, optionally concatenated with one or more of **vuaibcl**. *Afile* is the archive file. The *names* are constituent files in the archive file. The meanings of the *key* characters are:

- d** Delete the named files from the archive file.
- r** Replace the named files in the archive file. If the optional character **u** is used with **r**, then only those files with modified dates later than the archive files are replaced. If an optional positioning character from the set **abi** is used, then the *posname* argument must be present and specifies that new files are to be placed after (**a**) or before (**b** or **i**) *posname*. Otherwise new files are placed at the end.
- q** Quickly append the named files to the end of the archive file. Optional positioning characters are invalid. The command does not check whether the added members are already in the archive. Useful only to avoid quadratic behavior when creating a large archive piece-by-piece.
- t** Print a table of contents of the archive file. If no names are given, all files in the archive are tabled. If names are given, only those files are tabled.
- p** Print the named files in the archive.
- m** Move the named files to the end of the archive. If a positioning character is present, then the *posname* argument must be present and, as in **r**, specifies where the files are to be moved.
- x** Extract the named files. If no names are given, all files in the archive are extracted. In neither case does **x** alter the archive file.
- v** Verbose. Under the verbose option, *ar* gives a file-by-file description of the making of a new archive file from the old archive and the constituent files. When used with **t**, it gives a long listing of all information about the files. When used with **p**, it precedes each file with a name.
- c** Create. Normally *ar* will create *afile* when it needs to. The create option suppresses the normal message that is produced when *afile* is created.
- l** Local. Normally *ar* places its temporary files in the directory /tmp. This option causes them to be placed in the local directory.

**FILES**

/tmp/v\* temporaries

**SEE ALSO**

ld(1), ranlib(1), ar(5)

**CROSS-SUPPORT**

In a cross-support environment, *ar* is called *nar*.

**BUGS**

If the same file is mentioned twice in an argument list, it may be put in the archive twice.