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Reference

UUPC/extended 1.11v Mail Command

### Revision and Copyright:

This is the 67th revision of this document and applies to version 1.11v of UUPC/extended. This document was last updated on September 4, 1992 by Katherine E. Williams. Portions of this documentation are Copyright (c) Andrew H. Derbyshire 1989 and Copyright (c) Kendra Electronic Wonderworks 1990-1992. Full copyright information for UUPC/extended appears in the file README.DOC.

### Introduction:

This file describes how to invoke and use the UUPC/extended MAIL program. It lists the commands available from the question mark (?) prompt in when reading MAIL. See tilde.hlp for tilde (~) escape commands available when sending mail.

### Command line options

The MAIL program is used for both sending and receiving mail. The options available depend whether you wish to send or receive mail. For sending mail interactively, the syntax is:

```
mail -s "subject" addressees
```

If the -s "subject" is omitted, the user is prompted for a subject. Addressees must be specified, and are in the form listed below. For receiving mail, the syntax is:

```
mail -f filename  
mail -u userid
```

where filename is the mailbox to be read using the syntax described below for filenames, or userid is the user id whose system mailbox is to be read. The default is to read your own system mailbox.

### Types of operands

In the list of available commands, items refers to one or more items in the mail box. These items can be specified in the following fashion:

Item Number	A single numeric value, the special character dot (.) to specify the current item, or the special character dollar sign (\$) to specify the last item in the mailbox.
Item range	Two Item numbers separated by a hyphen (-). The items must be in ascending order; for example, 1-\$ is valid, \$-1 is not valid.

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List of items A list of item numbers and/or item ranges, separated by spaces. The list need not be in ascending order. An example is: 1-5 8 7 14-17.

Asterisk (\*) Selects all items in the mailbox

Subject A slash (/) followed by a subject to search for, optionally followed by a terminating slash. Each Subject: or Resent-Subject: will be searched for the specified string. An example is /UUPC bugs/

User id A single word (no white space) appearing in the From or Resent-From lines of the mail header. Note that if the command accepts both an item and a userid, you cannot specify the item as a user id.

**Note:** If the command accepts both an item and file name and you specify a user id for the item, you must explicitly provide the default filename unless the user id includes the characters at sign (@), percent sign (%), or exclamation point (!).

Some commands also allow file names as operands. These may be described in the following fashion:

Simple file name An MS-DOS file name with no path name

Relative path name An MS-DOS file name with one or more back slashes (\) which does not begin with a back slash or drive letter.

Absolute path name An MS-DOS file name with one or more back slashes (\) which begins with a back slash or drive letter.

Mailbox A simple file name prefixed by the plus sign (+) character. This will cause the file be referenced as if it is the mailbox for the specified user. For example, +postmast refers to the mailbox for user postmast.

Relative to your home directory A simple file name preceded by a tilde and slash (~/). The file is then referenced by the prepending the home directory listed in your PERSONAL.RC to the simple file name.

Relative to another's home directory. A simple file name preceded by a tilde, the userid, and a slash (~userid/). The file is then referenced by the prepending the home directory listed in the PASSWD file for user "userid" to the simple file name.

When sending mail from the MS-DOS command line or via the **mail** or **forward** commands, addressees must be entered. These take the form:

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userid	A simple user id, for delivery on the local system.
userid@node	A user id and node combination, for delivery to userid on system node.
nickname	A user or list defined in the user's <b>ALIASES.TXT</b> file.

If the flag **-c** is inserted before a user id, then all following users are delivered as Carbon Copy (Cc:) addressees. If the flag **-b** is inserted before a user id, then all following users are delivered as blind carbon copies; their addresses do not appear in the mail header. The blind carbon copy flag must follow any all normal addressees and carbon copy addressees.

#### Commands available when reading mail:

Commands are entered in response to the mail question mark prompt (?); all commands must be separated from their operands, if any, by white space. Most commands can be abbreviated to a single character; the commands which cannot be so abbreviated and their shortest allowable abbreviation are **debug (deb)**, **dquit (dq)**, **previous (pre)**, **set (se)**, and **status (st)**.

The commands supported by UUPC/extended are as follows:

empty line	If the current mail has not been touched, then an empty line acts as a <b>print</b> command; otherwise, it acts as a <b>next</b> command.
! command	Executes command as an MS-DOS command. If command is omitted, runs an inferior command processor (which gives the user a new DOS prompt.)
?	Prints a summary of commands available.
+ integer	Alias for <b>down</b> command.
- integer	Alias for <b>up</b> command.
alias a1 a2 a3	Displays alias information loaded from user's <b>ALIASES.TXT</b> file for nicknames a1 a2 a3. If an alias is list of other aliases, the list is recursively exploded and displayed. This command has no default operand; at least one alias must be specified.
copy items file	Copies mail items into file with headers. Default file is the printer on device PRN.

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debug integer	Sets internal trace level to integer; default is 0 at start up, 1 if command is entered with no operands. This can also be set by the command line flag - <b>x</b> .
delete items	Sets status of items to deleted. Deleted items are ignored when selecting mail by subject or user id, and are purged from the mailbox when the <b>quit</b> command is issued.
dquit items	Short for <b>delete</b> followed by <b>quit</b> .
exit	Exits mail without updating mailbox; deleted items are left alone. Compare this to the <b>quit</b> command.
forward items addr	Resends items to addr. Note that if the <b>askcc</b> option is set, each item forwarded will be prompted for Carbon Copy addressees.
go items	Positions to the last of the items selected.
headers	Displays summary information for all items in the mailbox.
Headers items	Displays summary information for the selected items in the mailbox.
help	Prints this long help text.
mail -s subject addr	Interactively send mail to addr with optional subject.
mail addr	
next integer	Move down in mailbox by integer items. Default is 1.
previous integer	Alias of <b>up</b> command.
print items	Print items from mailbox, using the external pager if defined in the configuration file and ignoring (not printing) a standard list of RFC-822 fields in the mail header such as Received: and Message-Id:. Compare this to the <b>Print</b> , <b>type</b> , and <b>Type</b> commands,
Print items	Print items from mailbox, using internal pager and ignoring (not printing) a standard list of RFC-822 fields in the mail header.
quit	Terminates the reading of mail. All deleted items are purged, and all other items are saved in the original mailbox or in =mbox depending on the setting of the <b>save</b> flag.
reply items	Interactively sends mail to the authors of each of the items requested. Note that each item is replied to separately, specifying "reply 1-10" will send ten pieces of mail to ten people.

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save items file	Saves the specified items complete with mail headers into file, and then deletes the items. Compare this to the <b>copy</b> and <b>write</b> commands.
set	Sets various boolean options. These option can also be set in your <b>PERSONAL.RC</b> file. The options are listed below under <b>SET OPTIONS</b> .
status	Reports miscellaneous program information, including:  The version and creation time of the program The operating system version The current address and related information The current file name, size, and date last updated
type items	Print items from mailbox, using external pager if available and displaying RFC-822 fields suppressed by the <b>print</b> command. Compare this to the <b>print</b> , <b>Print</b> , and <b>Type</b> commands,
Type items	Print items from mailbox, using internal pager and displaying RFC-822 fields suppressed by the <b>print</b> and <b>Print</b> commands.
undelete	Changes status of items to unread.
write items file	Writes <b>items</b> to <b>file</b> without the RFC-822 headers and then deletes them. The default file is <b>~/mbox</b> . Compare this to the <b>copy</b> and <b>save</b> commands.
xit	Alias for the <b>exit</b> command.

### Set options

In addition to the commands listed above, a variety of options can be set in the various configuration files; of special note are the boolean options specified via **options=** keyword in the configuration files, as they can be changed via the **set** command. Options are enabled by specifying their keyword, and disabled by prefixing the keyword with the characters "no"; the default for all options is disabled.

Valid boolean options which can be set by the user in the UUPC.RC file, their PERSONAL.RC file, or via the **options** command are as follows:

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Option name	Default operation	Operation if set
askcc	The user must enter all addressees when invoking <b>mail</b> or <b>forward</b> . Additional addressees cannot be added to mail generated by <b>reply</b> .	After composing, reply to, or forwarding mail, the user is prompted for carbon copy (Cc:) addressees.
autoedit	When sending mail, the user is presented with the line oriented send mail interface. To use a full screen editor, the user must use the <b>~e</b> (edit) command or exit line oriented data entry to invoke his editor.	If the user has defined an editor, when sending mail, the editor is immediately invoked for the user to enter mail with. The user must exit the editor to include mail from the active mailbox.
autoincl ude	Do not automatically include the text of mail being replied to.	When the reply command is invoked, automatically include the text of the mail being replied to as if the <b>~m</b> command was issued.
autosign	When sending mail, the user's signature file is not appended to outgoing mail automatically. If defined, the user mail still include the file via the <b>~g</b> (include autograph) command.	If defined in the user's configuration file, the signature is automatically appended to all outgoing mail.

backup	Do not create a backup of the file being processed before rewriting or deleting it.	Before updating or deleting the current file when exiting mail, rename the existing file to the same file name with the extension defined by the configuration variable <b>BackupExt</b> .  <b>Note:</b> If no extension is defined, a default extension of "BAK" is used.
doskey	Under DOS, interactive input is read from the console using standard DOS services (INT 21H function 0AH). DOSKEY, if installed, is ignored. Empty input lines are processed normally.	If installed, the MS-DOS 5.0 DOSKEY program is used to read input from the console; normal DOSKEY functions, including the ability to edit and scroll input, along with macro expansion, is available. Empty lines (which can be generated by DOSKEY macro processing) are ignored at the command prompt unless the <b>expert</b> option is also set.  <b>Note:</b> If DOSKEY is not installed, when the user is first prompted for input the <b>doskey</b> option is reset to <b>nodoskey</b> with a warning message.
dot	When sending mail, interactive input must be terminated by the DOS end of file character (Ctrl-Z).	When sending mail, interactive input can be terminated by a single period (.) in column one.

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expert	All informational messages are displayed, and if the <b>doskey</b> option is also set, empty input lines are ignored in response to the command prompt.	Boiler plate messages, such as the initial help prompt, are suppressed, and empty input lines are not ignored when the <b>doskey</b> option is set.
forward-save	Mail sent via the <b>forward</b> command is not saved in the user's outgoing mailbox.	If the user has defined an outgoing mailbox, then mail sent via the <b>forward</b> command is saved in the same fashion as other outgoing mail.
fromsep	Items in the mailbox must be separated by a line of binary ones (1).	Items in the mailbox can be separated only by UUCP format <b>From</b> lines. The line of binary ones (1) required between items by the default operation of <b>nofromsep</b> is still generated when updating mailboxes.  <b>Note:</b> This option must be set in a system or user configuration file, because it only examined at start up.
pager	<b>help</b> , <b>print</b> and <b>type</b> use the external pager if one is defined, and <b>Print</b> and <b>Type</b> use the internal pager.	<b>help</b> , <b>print</b> and <b>type</b> use the internal pager, and <b>Print</b> and <b>Type</b> use the external pager if one is defined
purge	Empty mailboxes are left in place when the user exits mail.	Empty mailboxes are deleted when the user exits mail.



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save	Mail is left in the user's system mailbox after reading.	If mail is not deleted from the user's system mailbox after reading, it is automatically saved in his ~/mbox file when the user exits mail.
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suppress - copyright t	Display the UUPC/extended copyright notice at program startup.	Suppress the copyright notice at program startup. This, of course, does not suppress the associated responsibility.
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**Note:** This option must be set in a system or user configuration file, because it only examined at start up.

undelete	The environment variable DELDIR is reset to a null string by UUPOLL, causing files deleted by its children (UUCICO, UUPOLL, and UUCLEAN) to not be archived by the OS/2 operating system for later recovery.	The DELDIR environment variable is left alone, causing OS/2 to copy all deleted files to a hidden directory. This causes a performance and free disk space impact by saving files which the user should never have to access, much recover.
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**Note:** This option must be set in a system or user configuration file, because it is only examined at UUPOLL start up.

verbose	When invoked from mail, <b>RMAIL</b> only displays error messages.	When invoked from mail, rmail displays both error messages and nominal status messages, including the addresses mail was delivered to.
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**Note:** This option must be set in a system or user configuration file, because it only examined at start up.

The following system oriented options must apply to all users on a system and can only be set in the UUPC.RC file:

Option name	Default operation	Operation if set
bang	RFC-822 headers are generated with a "User name" <user@node> format.	RFC-822 headers are generated with UUCP style (User name) node!user format.
collect	The size of mail is not reported by RMAIL.	The RMAIL delivery and spooling messages include the size of the files delivered.
director y	Mail for "user" is delivered to the file user in the directory specified by the <b>maildir=</b> line in the system configuration file.	Mail for "user" is delivered to the file newmail in the user sub-directory of the directory specified by the <b>maildir=</b> line in the system configuration file.

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escape	Only Ctrl-Break can be used to exit from UUPOLL or UUCICO.	If the Esc (Escape) key is pressed, then the next time UUPOLL or UUCICO polls the type-ahead buffer the program will act as if Cntl-Break was pressed.  <b>Note:</b> Enabling this option effectively disables type-ahead, since all characters except Esc are discarded with an error message.
history	No news history is maintained.	A history is maintained of all news articles read and posted.  <b>Note:</b> The <code>history</code> option is currently ignored.
kanji	No translation of characters takes place during RMAIL processing.	Mail which originates locally is translated from a 2 byte Kanji code called Shift-JIS (Japanese ideogram) to Kanji in a 7bit subset of ISO2022 which can be transmitted via SMTP. Mail from remote systems which is delivered locally is translated from JIS 7bit back to Shift-JIS.
monocase	Job sequence ids are generated in base 62 using numerics and upper and lower case alphabets.	Job sequence ids are generated in base 36 using numerics and upper case alphabets.

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multitas k	Processing is optimized for speed over system integrity.	Additional processing is performed to insure system integrity. This additional processing includes creating lock files to prevent concurrent access to system spool directories, writing program logs to temporary files and then appending the file to the permanent log file at program termination, and movng new mail from the user's system mailbox into the user's home directory when MAIL is first run after the new mail's arrival.
multique ue	When queuing mail for other hosts, each addressee is delivered separately.	When queuing mail for other hosts, a single file delivered via the remote UUCP can have multiple addressees.
snews	Incoming news is written to seperate files in directories based on the news group names listed in the ACTIVE file located in the NewsDir directory.	Incoming news is written to a file in the NewsDir directory without examing the ACTIVE file.
symmetri cgrades	When actively polling, UUCICO does not transmit the maximum grade for file transfers allowed by the SYSTEMS file to the remote system at startup.	UUCICO transmits the maximum grade for file transfers allowed by the SYSTEMS file to the remote system at startup.
syslog	No record is made of files transferred.	The file SYSLOG is written in the spool directory with a record for each file transferred to or from the local system.

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