

NAME

`ident` – identify RCS keyword strings in files

SYNOPSIS

```
ident [ -q ] [ -V ] [ file ... ]
```

DESCRIPTION

ident searches for all instances of the pattern `$keyword: text $` in the named files or, if no files are named, the standard input.

These patterns are normally inserted automatically by the RCS command `co(1)`, but can also be inserted manually. The option `-q` suppresses the warning given if there are no patterns in a file. The option `-V` prints **ident**'s version number.

ident works on text files as well as object files and dumps. For example, if the C program in `f.c` contains

```
#include <stdio.h>
static char const rcsid[] =
    "$Id: f.c,v 5.4 1993/11/09 17:40:15 eggert Exp $";
int main() { return printf("%s\n", rcsid) == EOF; }
```

and `f.c` is compiled into `f.o`, then the command

```
ident f.c f.o
```

will output

```
f.c:
    $Id: f.c,v 5.4 1993/11/09 17:40:15 eggert Exp $
f.o:
    $Id: f.c,v 5.4 1993/11/09 17:40:15 eggert Exp $
```

If a C program defines a string like `rcsid` above but does not use it, `lint(1)` may complain, and some C compilers will optimize away the string. The most reliable solution is to have the program use the `rcsid` string, as shown in the example above.

ident finds all instances of the `$keyword: text $` pattern, even if `keyword` is not actually an RCS-supported keyword. This gives you information about nonstandard keywords like `$XConsortium$`.

KEYWORDS

Here is the list of keywords currently maintained by `co(1)`. All times are given in Coordinated Universal Time (UTC, sometimes called GMT) by default, but if the files were checked out with `co`'s `-zzone` option, times are given with a numeric time zone indication appended.

\$Author\$

The login name of the user who checked in the revision.

\$Date\$ The date and time the revision was checked in.

\$Header\$

A standard header containing the full pathname of the RCS file, the revision number, the date and time, the author, the state, and the locker (if locked).

\$Id\$ Same as **\$Header\$**, except that the RCS filename is without a path.

\$Locker\$

The login name of the user who locked the revision (empty if not locked).

\$Log\$ The log message supplied during checkin. For **ident**'s purposes, this is equivalent to **\$RCSfile\$**.

\$Name\$

The symbolic name used to check out the revision, if any.

\$RCSfile\$

The name of the RCS file without a path.

\$Revision\$

The revision number assigned to the revision.

\$Source\$

The full pathname of the RCS file.

\$State\$

The state assigned to the revision with the **-s** option of **rcs(1)** or **ci(1)**.

co(1) represents the following characters in keyword values by escape sequences to keep keyword strings well-formed.

<i>char</i>	<i>escape sequence</i>
tab	\t
newline	\n
space	\040
\$	\044
\	\\

IDENTIFICATION

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Manual Page Revision: 5.4; Release Date: 1993/11/09.

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SEE ALSO

ci(1), **co(1)**, **rcs(1)**, **rcsdiff(1)**, **rcsintro(1)**, **rcsmerge(1)**, **rlog(1)**, **rcsfile(5)**

Walter F. Tichy, RCS—A System for Version Control, *Software—Practice & Experience* **15**, 7 (July 1985), 637-654.