

NAME

builtin, !, %, ., :, @, [, {, }, alias, alloc, bg, bind, bindkey, break, breaksw, builtins, case, cd, chdir, command, complete, continue, default, dirs, do, done, echo, echotc, elif, else, end, endif, endsw, esac, eval, exec, exit, export, false, fc, fg, filetest, fi, for, foreach, getopts, glob, goto, hash, hashstat, history, hup, if, jobid, jobs, kill, limit, local, log, login, logout, ls-F, nice, nohup, notify, onintr, popd, printenv, printf, pushd, pwd, read, readonly, rehash, repeat, return, sched, set, setenv, settc, setty, setvar, shift, source, stop, suspend, switch, telltc, test, then, time, times, trap, true, type, ulimit, umask, unalias, uncomplete, unhash, unlimit, unset, unsetenv, until, wait, where, which, while - shell built-in commands

SYNOPSIS

See the built-in command description in the appropriate shell manual page.

DESCRIPTION

Shell builtin commands are commands that can be executed within the running shell's process. Note that, in the case of `cs(1)` builtin commands, the command is executed in a subshell if it occurs as any component of a pipeline except the last.

If a command specified to the shell contains a slash `/`, the shell will not execute a builtin command, even if the last component of the specified command matches the name of a builtin command. Thus, while specifying `"echo"` causes a builtin command to be executed under shells that support the **echo** builtin command, specifying `"/bin/echo"` or `"/.echo"` does not.

While some builtin commands may exist in more than one shell, their operation may be different under each shell which supports them. Below is a table which lists shell builtin commands, the standard shells that support them and whether they exist as standalone utilities.

Only builtin commands for the `cs(1)` and `sh(1)` shells are listed here. Consult a shell's manual page for details on the operation its builtin commands. Beware that the `sh(1)` manual page, at least, calls some of these commands "built-in commands" and some of them "reserved words". Users of other shells may need to consult an `info(1)` page or other sources of documentation.

Commands marked "No**" under *External* do exist externally, but are implemented as scripts using a builtin command of the same name.

| <i>Command</i> | <i>External</i> | <code>cs(1)</code> | <code>sh(1)</code> |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| ! | No | No | Yes |
| % | No | Yes | No |
| . | No | No | Yes |
| : | No | Yes | Yes |
| @ | No | Yes | No |

| | | | |
|-----------------|------|-----|-----|
| [| Yes | No | Yes |
| { | No | No | Yes |
| } | No | No | Yes |
| alias | No** | Yes | Yes |
| alloc | No | Yes | No |
| bg | No** | Yes | Yes |
| bind | No | No | Yes |
| bindkey | No | Yes | No |
| break | No | Yes | Yes |
| breaksw | No | Yes | No |
| builtin | No | No | Yes |
| builtins | No | Yes | No |
| case | No | Yes | Yes |
| cd | No** | Yes | Yes |
| chdir | No | Yes | Yes |
| command | No** | No | Yes |
| complete | No | Yes | No |
| continue | No | Yes | Yes |
| default | No | Yes | No |
| dirs | No | Yes | No |
| do | No | No | Yes |
| done | No | No | Yes |
| echo | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| echotc | No | Yes | No |
| elif | No | No | Yes |
| else | No | Yes | Yes |
| end | No | Yes | No |
| endif | No | Yes | No |
| endsw | No | Yes | No |
| esac | No | No | Yes |
| eval | No | Yes | Yes |
| exec | No | Yes | Yes |
| exit | No | Yes | Yes |
| export | No | No | Yes |
| false | Yes | No | Yes |
| fc | No** | No | Yes |
| fg | No** | Yes | Yes |
| filetest | No | Yes | No |
| fi | No | No | Yes |
| for | No | No | Yes |

| | | | |
|-----------------|------|-----|-----|
| foreach | No | Yes | No |
| getopts | No** | No | Yes |
| glob | No | Yes | No |
| goto | No | Yes | No |
| hash | No** | No | Yes |
| hashstat | No | Yes | No |
| history | No | Yes | No |
| hup | No | Yes | No |
| if | No | Yes | Yes |
| jobid | No | No | Yes |
| jobs | No** | Yes | Yes |
| kill | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| limit | No | Yes | No |
| local | No | No | Yes |
| log | No | Yes | No |
| login | Yes | Yes | No |
| logout | No | Yes | No |
| ls-F | No | Yes | No |
| nice | Yes | Yes | No |
| nohup | Yes | Yes | No |
| notify | No | Yes | No |
| onintr | No | Yes | No |
| popd | No | Yes | No |
| printenv | Yes | Yes | No |
| printf | Yes | No | Yes |
| pushd | No | Yes | No |
| pwd | Yes | No | Yes |
| read | No** | No | Yes |
| readonly | No | No | Yes |
| rehash | No | Yes | No |
| repeat | No | Yes | No |
| return | No | No | Yes |
| sched | No | Yes | No |
| set | No | Yes | Yes |
| setenv | No | Yes | No |
| settc | No | Yes | No |
| setty | No | Yes | No |
| setvar | No | No | Yes |
| shift | No | Yes | Yes |
| source | No | Yes | No |

| | | | |
|-------------------|------|-----|-----|
| stop | No | Yes | No |
| suspend | No | Yes | No |
| switch | No | Yes | No |
| telltc | No | Yes | No |
| test | Yes | No | Yes |
| then | No | No | Yes |
| time | Yes | Yes | No |
| times | No | No | Yes |
| trap | No | No | Yes |
| true | Yes | No | Yes |
| type | No** | No | Yes |
| ulimit | No** | No | Yes |
| umask | No** | Yes | Yes |
| unalias | No** | Yes | Yes |
| uncomplete | No | Yes | No |
| unhash | No | Yes | No |
| unlimit | No | Yes | No |
| unset | No | Yes | Yes |
| unsetenv | No | Yes | No |
| until | No | No | Yes |
| wait | No** | Yes | Yes |
| where | No | Yes | No |
| which | Yes | Yes | No |
| while | No | Yes | Yes |

SEE ALSO

csh(1), echo(1), false(1), info(1), kill(1), login(1), nice(1), nohup(1), printenv(1), printf(1), pwd(1), sh(1), test(1), time(1), true(1), which(1)

HISTORY

The **builtin** manual page first appeared in FreeBSD 3.4.

AUTHORS

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