

**NAME**

`dvipos` – compute positions in a DVI file

**SYNOPSIS**

`dvipos` [ *OPTION...* ] *infile* [.dvi]

**DESCRIPTION**

`dvipos` parses a DVI file looking for *pos:* specials. It currently recognizes *pos:pxy*, *pos:pxywhd*, *pos:pxyplus*, *pos:begbox*, *pos:endbox*, *pos:beglines*, and *pos:endlines*. It then outputs the information from those specials along with information that only a DVI postprocessor could determine, such as the current *x* and *y* location. The output looks like:

```
\pospxywhd{text:54}{54}{10663sp}{8535sp}{21326sp}{34081sp}{0sp}
```

and is suitable for including in a `tex`(1) or `pdftex`(1) auxiliary file, such as *document.tuo*, to be read in by the next run of the `tex`(1) or similar typesetting engine.

**OPTIONS**

**-h, --help**

print usage.

**-W, --warning**

print warnings.

**-v, --verbose**

print verbose output.

**-d, --debug**

print `dvitype`(1) debugging data.

**-s, --smashchars**

regard height and depth as zero.

**-o, --output=FILE**

send all output to FILE. Without this option, output goes to stdout.

**-b, --bbox[=FILE]**

send bounding box to FILE (default FILE is *infile.pos*).

**-f, --framed[=BASE]**

request copy of DVI file, *BASE.dvi*, with bounding boxes **framed** (default FILE is *infile\_frames.dvi*). See the **--framesize** option.

**-m, --mag=INT**

override `tex`(1) magnification by INT.

**-w, --framesize=INT**

set frame rule size by INT (default 6554 = .1pt).

**-p, --pages=X:Y**

set page ranges from X to Y.

**USAGE**

`dvipos` is run mostly behind the scenes by ConTeXt's `texexec`(1) between runs of `tex`(1) or `pdftex`(1), in order to provide information to and get information about positional graphics.

These graphics are provided by the MetaFun interface to **mpost(1)**. **dvipos** is not used (or needed) in PDF-output mode but is needed for DVI-output mode. **pdfTeX(1)** starting with version 1.40 can produce position information even in DVI mode, so once the ConTeXt macros take advantage of this feature, the need for **dvipos** will fade.

Until then, here is a typical use of **dvipos**:

```
dvipos notes.dvi
```

The position information that is output is collected by **texexec(1)** to include in the *notes.tuo* auxiliary file to use in the next run.

## EXAMPLES

Extract positions from *doc.dvi*, with output to *doc.loc*:

```
dvipos -o doc.loc doc.dvi
```

Same as above, but also send bbox information to *doc.pos*:

```
dvipos -b -o doc.loc doc.dvi
```

Instead send bbox information to */tmp/debug.pos*:

```
dvipos -b=/tmp/debug.pos -o doc.loc doc.dvi
```

## SEE ALSO

**dvipos(1)**, **dvitype(1)**, **mpost(1)**, **pdfTeX(1)**, **TeX(1)**, **texexec(1)**.

For more about positional graphics, see the MetaFun documentation on the [ConTeXt wiki](http://wiki.contextgarden.net/MetaFun) (<http://wiki.contextgarden.net/MetaFun>).

## BUGS

If you specify a file for the **-b** option, you must join the option and name with = rather than (the more common) space:

```
dvipos -b=/tmp/debug.pos notes.dvi
```

works, but

```
dvipos -b /tmp/debug.pos notes.dvi
```

does not.

## AUTHOR

**dvipos** is written by Jin-Hwan Cho <chofchof@ktug.or.kr>. It is free software (GPLv2 or later). This manpage was written by Sanjoy Mahajan <sanjoy@mit.edu> and is in the public domain.