

NAME

`mktextfm` – create a TFM file for a font

SYNOPSIS

`mktextfm` [*options*] *font*

DESCRIPTION

`mktextfm` is used to generate a tfm file from the Metafont source files for *font*, or `hbf2gf(1)`, if possible. If *destdir* is given, the generated file will be installed there, otherwise a (rather complicated) heuristic is used. If the tfm file already exists in the destination location, this is reported and nothing is done.

If a GF (Generic Font) bitmap file is also generated, as is typical with MF, it is converted to PK (Packed Font) and installed similarly.

The full pathname of the generated file is printed on standard output.

If available, the `mf-nowin(1)` variant of Metafont is used to generate fonts to avoid the possibility of online display.

`mktextfm` is typically called by other programs, via Kpathsea, rather than from the command line.

OPTIONS

`mktextfm` accepts the following options:

--destdir *dir*

A directory name. If the directory is absolute, it is used as-is. Otherwise, it is appended to the root destination directory set in the script.

--help Print help message and exit successfully.

--version

Print version information and exit successfully.

ENVIRONMENT

One environment variable is specific to `mktextfm`: `MF_MODE_EXTRA_INFO`. If this is set to a non-empty value, a Metafont macro `mode_include_extra_info` will be invoked when the font is made. The standard `modes.mf` file defines this, as of `modes.mf` version 4.0, released in 2020. This causes the so-called Xerox-world information, notably including the **CODINGScheme** for the font, to be included in the tfm file. (This is not done by default since it is too intrusive to redefine the necessary primitives, per Don Knuth.) The `mftrace(1)` program, for example, can use this to get a clue about the font encoding, although the information is not always perfectly definitive or unambiguous.

For more about the encodings of Metafont fonts, see the section “Bitmap font encodings” in the Dvips manual (e.g., <https://tug.org/texinfohtml/dvips.html>).

The many other environment variables and various configuration files that control a \TeX system also affect the behavior of `mktextfm`, as usual.

SEE ALSO

`mf(1)`, `mktextmf(1)`, `mktextpk(1)`.

REPORTING BUGS

Report bugs to: tex-k@tug.org (<https://lists.tug.org/tex-k>)
 \TeX Live home page: <https://tug.org/texlive/>