

**NAME**

tlmgr – the TeX Live Manager

**SYNOPSIS**

tlmgr [*option*]... *action* [*option*]... [*operand*]...

**DESCRIPTION**

**tlmgr** manages an existing TeX Live installation, both packages and configurations options.

**OPTIONS**

The following options have to be given *before* you specify the action.

**--location** *location*

Specifies the location from which packages should be installed or updated, overriding the location found in the installation's TLPDB.

**--gui** Instead of starting the GUI via the **gui** action, you can also give this option together with an action from above and will be brought directly into the respective screen of the GUI. So calling

```
tlmgr --gui update
```

will bring you directly into the update screen.

**--gui-lang**

Normally the GUI tries to deduce your language from the environment (on Windows via the registry, on Unix via LC\_MESSAGES). If that fails you can select a different language by giving this option a two-letter language code.

The standard options are also accepted: **--help/-h/-?**, **--version**, **-q** (no informational messages), **-v** (debugging messages, can be repeated). For more information about the latter, see the TeXLive::TLUtils documentation.

**ACTIONS**

**help** Gives this help page.

**gui** Start the graphical user interface.

**install** [*option*]... *pkg*...

Install all *pkgs* given on the command line. By default this installs all packages that the given *pkgs* are dependent on, also. Options:

**--no-depends**

Do not install dependencies. By default, installing a package ensures that all dependencies of this package are fulfilled.

**--dry-run**

Nothing is actually installed; instead, the actions to be performed are written to the terminal.

**update** [*option*] [*pkg* [*pkg* ...]]

Updates the packages given as arguments to the latest version available at the installation source. Options:

**--list** List only which packages could be updated.

**--all** Update all package.

**--dry-run**

Nothing is actually installed; instead, the actions to be performed are written to the terminal.

**--backupdir** *directory*

If this option is given it must specify an existing directory where a snapshot of the current package as installed will be saved before the packages is updated. This way one can go back in case an update turned out as not working. See the action **restore** for details.

**backup** **--backupdir** **dir** [**--all**] [**pkg** [**pkg**]]

Makes a backup of the given packages (or all packages with **--all**) to the directory specified with **--backupdir** (must exist and be a writable).

Warning: Making a backup of *all* packages will need quite some space and time.

Options:

**--backupdir** **directory**

This is an obligatory argument and has to specify a directory where backups are to be found.

**--all** Make a backup of all packages in the texlive.tlpdb

**restore** **--backupdir** **dir** [**pkg** [**rev**]]

If no **pkg** and **rev** is given list all packages the available backup revisions.

With **pkg** given but without **rev** lists all available backup revisions of **pkg**.

With both **pkg** and **rev** given tries to restore the package from its backup.

The option **--backupdir** **dir** is obligatory and has to specify a directory with backups.

Options:

**--dry-run**

Nothing is actually restored; instead, the actions to be performed are written to the terminal.

**--backupdir** **directory**

This is an obligatory argument and has to specify a directory where backups are to be found.

**remove** [**option**]... **pkg**...

Remove all *pkgs* given on the command line. Removing a collection will remove all package dependencies (but not collection dependencies) in that collection, unless **--no-depends** is specified. However, when removing a package, dependencies are never removed.

Removing a package which is referenced as a dependency in another collection or scheme is disallowed, unless **--force** is specified.

Options:

**--no-depends**

Do not remove dependent packages.

**--force** By default, when removing a package or collection would invalidate a dependency of another collection/scheme, the package will not be removed and a warning issued. With this option, the package will be removed unconditionally. Use with care.

**--dry-run**

Nothing is actually installed; instead, the actions to be performed are written to the terminal.

**option** [**show**]**option** **key** [**value**]

The first form shows the settings currently saved in the TLPDB.

In the second form, if *value* is missing the setting for *key* is displayed. If *value* is present, *key* is set to *value*.

Possible values for *key* are: *location* (default installation source), *formats* (create formats at installation time), *docfiles* (install documentation files), *srcfiles* (install source files).

**paper a4****paper letter**

**[xdvi|dvips|pdftex|dvipdfm|dvipdfmx|context] paper [help|papersize|--list]**

Configures the system wide paper settings, either for all programs in one go, or just for the specified program. The last form with **--list** outputs all known papersizes for the specified program.

**arch list** Prints the names of the systems available at the default install location.

**arch add arch...**

Add executables for the specified *arches* to the installation. Options:

**--dry-run**

Nothing is actually installed; instead, the actions to be performed are written to the terminal.

**search [option...] what**

By default searches the names, short and long descriptions of all locally installed packages for the given argument (interpreted as regexp). Options:

**--file** List all filenames containing *what*.

**--global**

Search the TeX Live Database of the installation medium, instead of the local installation.

**show pkg...**

Shows information about *pkg*: the name, category, installation status, short and long description. Searches in the remote installation source for the package if it is not locally installed.

**list [collections|schemes]**

With no argument, lists all packages available at the default install location, prefixing those already installed with *i* .

With an argument lists only collections or schemes, as requested.

**uninstall**

Uninstalls the entire TeX Live installation. Options:

**--force** Do not ask for confirmation, remove immediately.

**generate language****generate language.dat****generate language.def****generate fmtutil****generate updmap**

The *generate* action overwrites any manual changes made in the respective files: it recreates them from scratch.

For *fmtutil* and the language files, this is normal, and both the TeX Live installer and *tlmgr* routinely call *generate* for them.

For *updmap*, however, neither the installer nor *tlmgr* use *generate*, because the result would be to disable all maps which have been manually installed via *updmap-sys --enable*, e.g., for proprietary or local fonts. Only the changes in the *--localcfg* file mentioned below are incorporated by *generate*.

On the other hand, if you only use the fonts and font packages within TeX Live, there is nothing wrong with using *generate updmap*. Indeed, we use it to generate the *updmap.cfg* file that is maintained in the live source repository.

In more detail: *generate* remakes any of the four config files *language.dat*, *language.def*, *fmtutil.cnf*, and *updmap.cfg* from the information present in the local TLPDB. If the files *language-local.dat*, *language-local.def*,

`fmtutil-local.cnf`, or `updmap-local.cfg` are present under `TEXMFLOCAL` in the respective directories, their contents will be simply merged into the final files, with no error checking of any kind.

The form `generate language` recreates both the `language.dat` and the `language.def` files, while the forms with extension only recreates the given file.

Options:

**---dest** *output file*

specifies the output file (defaults to the respective location in `TEXMFSYSVAR`). If **---dest** is given to `generate language`, its value will be used for the `language.dat` output, and `.def` will be appended to the value for the name of the `language.def` output file. (This is just to avoid overwriting; if you really want a specific name for each output file, we recommend invoking `tlmgr` twice.)

**---localcfg** *local conf file*

specifies the (optional) local additions (defaults to the respective location in `TEXMFSYSVAR`).

The respective locations are as follows:

`tex/generic/config/language.dat` (and `language-local.dat`)  
`tex/generic/config/language.def` (and `language-local.def`)  
`web2c/fmtutil.cnf` (and `fmtutil-local.cnf`)  
`web2c/updmap.cfg` (and `updmap-local.cnf`)

## AUTHORS AND COPYRIGHT

This script and its documentation were written for the TeX Live distribution (<http://tug.org/texlive>) and both are licensed under the GNU General Public License Version 2 or later.