

**NAME**

`bibtex` – make a bibliography for (La)TeX

**SYNOPSIS**

`bibtex` [ **-min-crossrefs**=*number* ] [ **-terse** ] [ *auxname* ]

**DESCRIPTION**

This manual page is not meant to be exhaustive. The complete documentation for this version of TeX can be found in the info file or manual *Web2C: A TeX implementation*.

BIBTeX reads the top-level auxiliary (*.aux*) file that was output during the running of `latex(1)` or `tex(1)` and creates a bibliography (*.bbl*) file that will be incorporated into the document on subsequent runs of L<sup>A</sup>TeX or TeX. The *auxname* on the command line must be given without the *.aux* extension. If you don't give the *auxname*, the program prompts you for it.

BIBTeX looks up, in bibliographic database (*.bib*) files specified by the `\bibliography` command, the entries specified by the `\cite` and `\nocite` commands in the L<sup>A</sup>TeX or TeX source file. It formats the information from those entries according to instructions in a bibliography style (*.bst*) file (specified by the `\bibliographystyle` command, and it outputs the results to the *.bbl* file.

The L<sup>A</sup>TeX manual explains what a L<sup>A</sup>TeX source file must contain to work with BIBTeX. Appendix B of the manual describes the format of the *.bib* files. The ‘BIBTeXing’ document describes extensions and details of this format, and it gives other useful hints for using BIBTeX.

**OPTIONS**

The **-min-crossrefs** option defines the minimum number of **crossref** required for automatic inclusion of the crossref'd entry on the citation list; the default is two. With the **-terse** option, BIBTeX operates silently. Without it, a banner and progress reports are printed on *stdout*.

**ENVIRONMENT**

BIBTeX searches the directories in the path defined by the `BSTINPUTS` environment variable for *.bst* files. If `BSTINPUTS` is not set, it uses the system default. For *.bib* files, it uses the `BIBINPUTS` environment variable if that is set, otherwise the default. See `tex(1)` for the details of the searching.

If the environment variable `TEXMFOUTPUT` is set, BIBTeX attempts to put its output files in it, if they cannot be put in the current directory. Again, see `tex(1)`. No special searching is done for the *.aux* file.

**FILES**

*\*.bst* Bibliography style files.

*btldoc.tex*

“BIBTeXing” – L<sup>A</sup>TeXable documentation for general BIBTeX users

*btshak.tex*

“Designing BIBTeX Styles” – L<sup>A</sup>TeXable documentation for style designers

*btldoc.bib*

database file for those two documents

*xampl.bib*

database file giving examples of all standard entry types

*btbst.doc*

template file and documentation for the standard styles

All those files should be available somewhere on your system.

The host math.utah.edu has a vast collection of *.bib* files available for anonymous ftp, including references for all the standard T<sub>E</sub>X books and a complete bibliography for TUGboat.

## SEE ALSO

**latex**(1), **tex**(1).

Leslie Lamport, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X – *A Document Preparation System*, Addison-Wesley, 1985, ISBN 0-201-15790-X.

## AUTHOR

Oren Patashnik, Stanford University. This man page describes the web2c version of BIBT<sub>E</sub>X. Other ports of BIBT<sub>E</sub>X, such as Donald Knuth's version using the Sun Pascal compiler, do not have the same path searching implementation, or the command-line options.