NAME

if - conditional command

SYNOPSIS

if expr command [arg ...]

DESCRIPTION

If evaluates the expression *expr*, and if its value is true, executes the given *command* with the given arguments.

The following primitives are used to construct the *expr*:

-r file
: true if the file exists and is readable.

-w file
: true if the file exists and is writable.

s1 = s2
: true if the strings *s1* and *s2* are equal.

s1 **!=** s2
: true if the strings *s1* and *s2* are not equal.

{ command **}**
: The bracketed command is executed to obtain the exit status. Status zero is considered *true*. The command must not be another *if*.

These primaries may be combined with the following operators:

! unary negation operator

-a binary *and* operator

-o binary *or* operator

(expr **)**
: parentheses for grouping.

-a has higher precedence than **-o**. Notice that all the operators and flags are separate arguments to *if*

and hence must be surrounded by spaces. Notice also that parentheses are meaningful to the Shell and must be escaped.

SEE ALSO

sh(I), find(I)

BUGS