

**NAME**

shift – adjust Shell arguments

**SYNOPSIS**

**shift**

**DESCRIPTION**

*Shift* is used in Shell command files to shift the argument list left by 1, so that old **\$2** can now be referred to by **\$1** and so forth. *Shift* is useful to iterate over several arguments to a command file. For example, the command file

```
: loop
if $1x = x exit
pr -3 $1
shift
goto loop
```

prints each of its arguments in 3-column format.

*Shift* is executed within the Shell.

**SEE ALSO**

sh(I)

**BUGS**