

**NAME**

comdir – Compare directories.

**SYNOPSIS**

`${HOME}/bin/comdir dir1 dir2`

**DESCRIPTION**

If the number of parameters differs from 2 the script writes usage information and stops. If dir1 or dir2 is an absolute pathname that is used; if not the absolute pathname of the current directory is prepended to construct an absolute pathname. If either directory is not found the script writes an error message and stops.

The script examines each filename in dir1, skipping any that are not regular files. If a file is in dir1 but not in dir2 a message is written and no comparison is performed. If the filename ends in .tar.gz, the script uses comtar to compare the archives; if the file is of type PDF the script uses compdf to compare the .pdf files; otherwise it uses diff -b to compare the regular files.

Finally the script examines each filename in dir2, skipping any that are not regular files. If a file is in dir2 but not in dir1 a message is written.

**SEE ALSO**

comtar, which this script uses  
compdf, which this script uses

**DIAGNOSTICS**

These are the possible return codes:

- 0 no differences were found
- 1 dir1 or dir2 was not found
- 2 a file is in one directory but not the other
- 3 a file is in both directories but the versions differ
- 4 usage information was written

If the return code is 3 it might also be that some file is in one directory but not the other.

**WARNING**

Any subdirectories contained in dir1 or dir2 are ignored; the comparison performed by this script is not recursive. To compare directories recursively you can use diff -r, which might report as different .pdf files that describe the same document and .tar.gz archives that contain the same files.

**AUTHOR**

Michael Kupferschmid