

## TEST(I)

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### NAME

`test` — condition command

### SYNOPSIS

`test` *expr*  
[ *expr* ]

### DESCRIPTION

*test* evaluates the expression *expr*, and if its value is true then returns zero exit status; otherwise, a non zero exit status is returned. *test* returns a non zero exit if there are no arguments.

The following primitives are used to construct *expr*.

`-r` file            true if the file exists and is readable.  
`-w` file            true if the file exists and is writable.  
`-f` file            true if the file exists and is not a directory.  
`-d` file            true if the file exists exists and is a directory.  
*s1* = *s2*            true if the strings *s1* and *s2* are equal.  
*s1* != *s2*            true if the strings *s1* and *s2* are not equal.  
*s1*                  true if *s1* is not the null string.

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 *test*. Notice also that parentheses are meaningful to the Shell and must be escaped.

### SEE ALSO

`sh` (I), `find` (I)