tree Directory tree listing

CONCEPTS

tree skips dotfiles unless you pass -a, and prints a count of directories and files at the end.

Walk -L, -a, -x, -I
↓ filter
Filter -P, -I, --prune
↓ sort
Sort -t, -r, --dirsfirst
↓ decorate
Print -h, -p, -D, -J, -H

-P and -I take shell-style globs, not regexes; separate alternatives with | and quote the pattern.

-P only filters files; add --matchdirs to match directory names, and --prune to drop dirs left empty.

LISTING

tree
Print the current directory as a tree

tree *<dir>* **...**
Several directories at once

tree -L *<n>*
Descend at most n levels

tree -a
Show hidden files too

tree -d
List directories only

tree -f
Print the full path of each entry

tree -l
Follow symlinks to directories

tree -x
Stay on one filesystem

tree --noreport
Omit the final count line

tree --filelimit *<n>*
Skip dirs holding more than n entries

tree --condense
Merge single-child dir chains

tree -i
No indentation lines (flat list)

tree -F
Append type markers (/ * @ |)

LISTING (cont.)

tree -Q
Quote filenames

FILTERING

tree -I '*<glob>***'**
Hide matching files and dirs

tree -I 'node_modules|dist'
Hide several names

tree -P '*<glob>***'**
Show only matching files

tree -P '*.py' --prune
Matching files, no empty dirs

tree --gitignore
Apply .gitignore rules

tree --gitfile *<file>*
Use another ignore file

tree --matchdirs
Apply -P to directory names

tree --ignore-case
Case-insensitive -P and -I

tree --prune
Drop empty directories

DETAILS

tree -h
Human-readable sizes

tree -s
Sizes in bytes

tree --du
Directory totals (implies -s)

tree --si
Sizes in powers of 1000

tree -p
Show permissions

tree -u / -g
Show owner / group

tree -D
Show modification date

tree --timefmt '*<fmt>***'**
Date format (strftime), implies -D

tree -pugh
Mode, owner, group and size

SORTING

tree --dirsfirst
Directories before files

tree --filesfirst
Files before directories

SORTING (cont.)

tree -t
Sort by modification time

tree -r
Reverse the order

tree -v
Natural version sort (v2 before v10)

tree --sort *<key>*
name, size, mtime, ctime, version, none

OUTPUT

tree -J
JSON output

tree -X
XML output

tree -H *<baseHREF>*
HTML page with links

tree -H . -T '*<title>***' -o** *<file>*
HTML with title to a file

tree -o *<file>*
Write output to a file

tree -n
Never colourise

tree -C
Force colour, even in a pipe

tree --charset *<name>*
Output charset (e.g. ASCII)

tree --fromfile .
Build a tree from paths on stdin

RECIPES

Project overview

```
tree -a -L 3 --gitignore -I
'.git' --dirsfirst
# -I '.git': --gitignore does not
hide the .git dir itself
```

Biggest directories

```
tree --du -h -L 2 --sort size -r
# totals per directory, largest
first
```

Tree of a file list

```
git ls-files | tree --fromfile .
find . -name '*.md' | tree --
fromfile .
```

Share it as JSON or HTML

```
tree -J -L 2 src > tree.json
tree -H . -T 'Docs' -o index.html
docs/
```