wget Download and mirror

CONCEPTS

wget saves to a file by default and keeps going on its own: it retries, follows redirects and can recurse. curl prints to stdout and does not recurse; see the curl sheet for APIs.

Fetch URL retries, redirects
↓ saves
Local file -O, -P, -nd name it
↓ -r parses HTML
Follow links -l depth, -np, -A/-R
↓ -k rewrites
Offline copy -m -k -p

An existing file is not overwritten: wget saves as name.1, name.2. Use -c to resume, -N to refresh only newer files, or -nc to skip.

DOWNLOAD

wget *<url>*
Download to the current directory

wget -O *<file>* *<url>*
Save under a chosen name

wget -P *<dir>* *<url>*
Save into a directory

wget -c *<url>*
Resume an interrupted download

wget -i *<file>*
Read URLs from a file

wget -q *<url>*
Quiet, no output

wget -nv *<url>*
Short one-line output

wget -b *<url>*
Run in the background

wget -O - *<url>*
Write the body to stdout

wget -nc *<url>*
Skip if the file already exists

wget -N *<url>*
Only fetch if remote is newer

wget --content-disposition *<url>*
Use the server-suggested filename

RELIABILITY AND SPEED

wget -t *<n>* *<url>*
Number of retries (0 is unlimited)

wget --retry-connrefused *<url>*
Retry on refused connections

wget --retry-on-http-error=503,429 *<url>*
Retry on listed HTTP codes

wget -T *<sec>* *<url>*
Set all timeouts

wget --waitretry=*<sec>* *<url>*
Back off between retries

wget --limit-rate=*<rate>* *<url>*
Cap bandwidth (e.g. 500k, 2m)

wget -w *<sec>* **-i** *<file>*
Pause between downloads

RECURSIVE AND MIRROR

wget -r *<url>*
Follow links recursively (depth 5)

wget -r -l *<n>* *<url>*
Set recursion depth (0 or inf is unlimited)

wget -np -r *<url>*
Never ascend to the parent directory

wget -m *<url>*
Mirror: -r -N -l inf

wget -k *<url>*
Convert links for offline viewing

wget -p *<url>*
Also fetch images, CSS, scripts

wget -nd -r *<url>*
Flatten into one directory

wget -nH --cut-dirs=*<n>* **-r** *<url>*
Drop host and N path levels

wget -A *<list>* **-r** *<url>*
Accept only these extensions

wget -R *<list>* **-r** *<url>*
Reject these extensions

wget --accept-regex=*<re>* **-r** *<url>*
Accept URLs matching a regex

RECURSIVE AND MIRROR (cont.)

wget --reject-regex=*<re>* **-r** *<url>*
Skip URLs matching a regex

wget -H -D *<domains>* **-r** *<url>*
Span hosts but only these domains

wget -E -k -p *<url>*
Save one page fully for offline reading

HTTP, AUTH AND HEADERS

wget --header='*<Name: value>*' *<url>*
Add a request header

wget --user=*<u>* **--ask-password** *<url>*
Basic auth, prompt for password

wget --http-user=*<u>* **--http-password=***<p>* *<url>*
HTTP-only credentials

wget --load-cookies *<file>* *<url>*
Send cookies from a file

wget -U '*<agent>*' *<url>*
Set the User-Agent

wget --post-data='*<k=v>*' *<url>*
Send a POST with form data

wget -S *<url>*
Show the server response headers

wget --spider *<url>*
Check a URL without saving it

TLS AND LOGGING

wget --no-check-certificate *<url>*
Skip certificate validation

wget -o *<file>* *<url>*
Write the log to a file

RECIPES

Resume with retries

```
wget -c -t 0 --retry-connrefused -T 30 <url>
```