

## colorizing ls command output

To add some flair to the output display based on the types of files, you may want to colorize your output to easily distinguish files, folders and other attributes such as file and directory permissions. To achieve this run

### Syntax

```
ls --color
```

## Displaying the ls command version

If you are a bit curious as to what version of ls you are running, execute the command below

```
# ls --v
ls (GNU coreutils) 8.22
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This is free software: you are free to change and redistribute it.
There is NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by law.
```

```
Written by Richard M. Stallman and David MacKenzie.
```

```
#
```

You can also execute the command `ls --version` to print the ls command version.

## Displaying the ls command help page

To view more options and what you can do with ls simply run]

```
ls --help
```

```
jamie@debian:~$ ls --help
```

```
Usage: ls [OPTION]... [FILE]...
```

```
List information about the FILES (the current directory by default).
```

```
Sort entries alphabetically if none of -cftuvSUX nor --sort is specified.
```

```
Mandatory arguments to long options are mandatory for short options too.
```

-a, --all	do not ignore entries starting with .
-A, --almost-all	do not list implied . and ..
--author	with -l, print the author of each file
-b, --escape	print C-style escapes for nongraphic characters
--block-size=SIZE	scale sizes by SIZE before printing them; e.g., '--block-size=M' prints sizes in units of 1,048,576 bytes; see SIZE format below
-B, --ignore-backups	do not list implied entries ending with ~
-c	with -lt: sort by, and show, ctime (time of last modification of file status information); with -l: show ctime and sort by name; otherwise: sort by ctime, newest first
-C	list entries by columns
--color[=WHEN]	colorize the output; WHEN can be 'always' (default if omitted), 'auto', or 'never'; more info below
-d, --directory	list directories themselves, not their contents
-D, --dired	generate output designed for Emacs' dired mode
-f	do not sort, enable -aU, disable -ls --color
-F, --classify	append indicator (one of */=>@ ) to entries