

# BIBTOOL Quick Reference Card

for BIBTOOL version 2.51 — see also <http://www.gerd.neugebauer.de/software/TeX/BibTool/>  
©2010 Gerd Neugebauer (gene@gerd-neugebauer.de)

---

## Command line options

-- *rsc\_command*  
Perform resource command as if given in a file.

-A *type*  
Determine key disambiguation.

-d  
Check double entries.

-f *key\_format*  
Generate keys according to *key\_format*

-F  
Enable key generation with free key format.

-h  
Print short help and exit.

-i *input\_file*  
Mark a file to be processed later.

-k  
Make keys with the short format.

-K  
Make keys with the long format.

-o *output\_file*  
Send the output to *output\_file*.

-q  
Suppress warning messages.

-r *resource\_file*  
Read the resource file *resource\_file*.

-R  
Load the default resource file now.

-s  
Sort the result.

-S  
Sort the result in reverse order.

-v  
Turn on verbose messages about the actions performed.

-x *aux\_file*  
Extract those entries mentioned in *aux\_file*.

-X *regex*  
Extract entries matching *regex*.

## Libraries

**check\_y** Check the value of the year.

**default** All default settings.

**field** Redefine field names.

**brace** Use braces as delimiters.

**improve** Apply improvements.

**iso2tex** Translate ISO 8859/1 characters.

**iso\_def** Define ISO 8859/1 characters for formatting.

**month** Introduce strings for month names.

**opt** Remove OPT in field names.

**sort\_fld** Specify sort order for fields.

**tex\_def** Define T<sub>E</sub>X macros for formatting.

## General

resource.search.path = {*dir*<sub>1</sub>:*dir*<sub>2</sub>...}

resource {*file*}

bibtex.search.path = {*dir*<sub>1</sub>:*dir*<sub>2</sub>...}

bibtex.env.name = {ENV\_NAME}

env.separator = {*c*}

dir.file.separator = {*c*}

print {*message*}

quiet = *OnOff*

verbose = *OnOff*

crossref.limit = {*n*}

## Reading and Printing

input {*bib\_file*}

output.file = {*file*}

pass.comments = *OnOff*

new.entry.type {*type*}

print.align = *n*

print.align.key = *n*

print.align.preamble = *n*

print.align.comment = *n*

print.braces = *OnOff*

print.comma.at.end = *OnOff*

print.deleted.entries = *OnOff*

print.deleted.prefix = {*prefix*}

print.indent = *n*

print.line.length = *n*

print.newline = *n*

print.parentheses = *OnOff*

print.terminal.comma = *OnOff*

print.use.tab = *OnOff*

print.wide.equal = *OnOff*

suppress.initial.newline = *OnOff*

new.field.type {*new=old*}

symbol.type = *type*

upper, lower, cased

## Sorting

sort = *OnOff*

sort.cased = *OnOff*

sort.reverse = *OnOff*

sort.format = {*format*}

sort.order {...}

sort.macros = *OnOff*

## Searching (Extraction)

tex.define {*macro*[*arg*]=*text*}

extract.file {*file*}

select {*field*<sub>1</sub>...*field*<sub>*n*</sub> "*regex*"}

select {*type*<sub>1</sub>...*type*<sub>*n*</sub> }

select.by.string {*field*<sub>1</sub>...*field*<sub>*n*</sub> "*regex*"}

select.by.string.ignore {*chars*}

select.case.sensitive = *OnOff*

select.fields = {*field*<sub>1</sub>,*field*<sub>2</sub>,...}

## Field Manipulation

add.field {*field=value*}

delete.field {*field*}

rewrite.rule { *pattern* }  
delete all matching fields

rewrite.rule { *pattern* # *replacement* }  
rewrite all fields

rewrite.rule { *f*<sub>1</sub>...*f*<sub>*n*</sub> # *pattern* # *replacement* }  
rewrite some fields

rewrite.case.sensitive = *OnOff*

rewrite.limit = {*n*}

## Checks

check.double = *OnOff*

check.do.delete = *OnOff*

check.rule {*field* # *pattern* # *message*}

check.case.sensitive = *OnOff*

## Strings

macro.file {*file*}

print.all.strings = *OnOff*

expand.macros = *OnOff*

expand.crossref = *OnOff*

---

---

## Counting

count.all = *OnOff*  
count.used = *OnOff*

## Key Generation

preserve.keys = *OnOff*  
preserve.key.case = *OnOff*  
key.format = {*format*}  
    special values: short, long, short.need, long.need, empty  
key.generation = *OnOff*  
default.key = {*key*}  
key.base = *base*  
    values: upper, lower, digit  
key.number.separator = {*s*}  
key.expand.macros = *OnOff*  
fmt.name.title = {*s*}  
fmt.title.title = {*s*}  
fmt.name.name = {*s*}  
fmt.inter.name = {*s*}  
fmt.name.pre = {*s*}  
fmt.et.al = {*s*}  
fmt.word.separator = {*s*}  
new.format.type = {*n*="spec"}

## Name Formatting Specification

Use *n* letters. Use *m* name parts. Insert *pre* before, *mid* between, and *post* after the words. Translate according to the *s* parameter ('+', '-', '\*').

%*sn.mf*[*mid*][*pre*][*post*]  
    format first names.  
%*sn.mv*[*mid*][*pre*][*post*]  
    format "von" part.  
%*sn.ml*[*mid*][*pre*][*post*]  
    format last name.  
%*sn.mj*[*mid*][*pre*][*post*]  
    format "junior" part.

## Format Specifications

### Pseudo fields:

\$key  
\$default.key  
\$sortkey  
\$source  
\$type  
@type  
\$day

\$month  
\$mon  
\$year  
\$hour  
\$minute  
\$second  
\$user  
\$hostname

### Formatting Fields:

%±*x.y* *n*(*field*)  
    format *y* characters of *x* last names.  
%±*x.y* *N*(*field*)  
    format *y* characters of *x* names.  
%±*x.y* *p*(*field*)  
    format *x* names according to the name format *y*.  
%±*x.y* *d*(*field*)  
    format at most *x* digits of the *y*<sup>th</sup> number.  
%±*x.y* *D*(*field*)  
    format *x* digits of the *y*<sup>th</sup> number without truncation.  
%±*x* *s*(*field*)  
    format *x* string characters.  
%±*x.y* *t*(*field*)  
    format *x* sentence words of length *y*.  
%±*x.y* *T*(*field*)  
    format *x* sentence words of length *y*. (Words ignored)  
%±*x.y* *w*(*field*)  
    format *x* words of length *y*.  
%±*x* *W*(*field*)  
    format *x* words of length *y*. (Words ignored)  
%±*x.y* #*n*(*field*)  
    test whether the number of names is between *x* and *y*.  
%±*x.y* #*N*(*field*)  
    test whether the number of names is between *x* and *y*.  
%±*x.y* #*p*(*field*)  
    test whether the number of names is between *x* and *y*.  
%±*x.y* #*s*(*field*)  
    test whether the number of characters is between *x* and *y*.  
%±*x.y* #*t*(*field*)  
    test whether the number of words is between *x* and *y*.  
%±*x.y* #*T*(*field*)  
    test whether the number of not ignored words is between *x* and *y*.  
%±*x.y* #*w*(*field*)  
    test whether the number of words is between *x* and *y*.  
%±*x.y* #*W*(*field*)  
    test whether the number of not ignored words is between *x* and *y*.

---