

NAME

wimlib-imagex-extract – Extract files or directories from a WIM image

SYNOPSIS

wimlib-imagex extract *WIMFILE IMAGE* [*PATH...*] [*OPTION...*]

wimlib-imagex extract *WIMFILE IMAGE @LISTFILE* [*OPTION...*]

DESCRIPTION

wimlib-imagex extract extracts one or more files or directory trees from the specified *IMAGE* contained in the Windows Imaging (WIM) file *WIMFILE*. This command is also available as simply **wimextract** if the appropriate hard link or batch file has been installed.

wimlib-imagex extract is intended for extracting only a subset of a WIM image. If you want to extract or "apply" a full WIM image to a directory or NTFS volume, use **wimlib-imagex apply** (1) instead.

IMAGE specifies the image in *WIMFILE* that contains the files or directory trees to extract. It may be a 1-based index of an image in the WIM or the name of an image in the WIM. Use the **wimlib-imagex info** (1) command to show what images a WIM file contains.

Each *PATH* specifies a file or directory tree within the WIM image to extract. Alternatively, a single *LISTFILE* beginning with the '@' character is taken as a file that itself contains a list of files or directory trees to extract. See **PATH SPECIFICATIONS**.

By default, files and directories are extracted to the current directory. Use **--dest-dir** to choose an alternate target directory. Alternatively, use **--to-stdout** to extract a file to standard output to pipe into another program.

wimlib-imagex extract supports extracting files and directory trees from stand-alone WIMs as well as split WIMs. See **SPLIT WIMS**.

PATH SPECIFICATIONS

Except when a single path is specified and prefixed by the '@' character, each *PATH* specifies a file or directory tree within the WIM image to extract. Each such path must be specified as an absolute path starting from the root of the WIM image, like those output by the **wimlib-imagex dir** (1) command. However, path separators may be either forward or backward slashes, and the leading slash is optional; also, on Windows, the paths are treated case-insensitively, while on UNIX, paths are treated case-sensitively, except when overridden through the **WIMLIB_IMAGEX_IGNORE_CASE** environmental variable, as documented in **wimlib-imagex** (1).

If no *PATH*s are provided, the default behavior is to extract the full image, as if the path "/" had been provided.

If a single *PATH* is provided and is prefixed with the '@' character, it is interpreted as the path to a *LISTFILE* which must be a UTF-8 text file that contains a list of paths (files or directories) to extract, one per line. In each line, leading and trailing whitespace is ignored, and lines beginning with the ';' character and otherwise empty lines are ignored. Each path must be unquoted and must specify a full path in the WIM image, as described above. However, unless **--no-wildcards** is specified, each path in the list file may also contain the wildcard characters '?' and '*'. The '?' character matches any character other than a path separator, whereas the '*' character matches zero or more non-path-separator characters. Consequently, a single wildcard pattern may expand to multiple actual files or directories.

In the *LISTFILE* mode, by default a wildcard pattern that matches no files or directories in the WIM image only produces a warning; use **--strict-wildcards** if you want an error instead. Also, when using a list file, files and directories not located at the root of the WIM image will be extracted to a corresponding subdirectory of the destination directory rather than directly to the destination directory itself.

SPLIT WIMS

You may use **wimlib-imagex extract** to extract files or directory trees from a split WIM. This uses the **--refs="GLOB"** option in the same way as in other commands such as **wimlib-imagex apply**. See **wimlib-imagex apply** (1) for more details.

OPTIONS

--check

When reading *WIMFILE*, verify its integrity if an integrity table is present.

--ref="GLOB"

File glob of additional WIMs or split WIM parts to reference resources from. See **SPLIT_WIMS**. Note: *GLOB* is listed in quotes because it is interpreted by **wimlib-imagex** and may need to be quoted to protect against shell expansion.

--unix-data

See the documentation for this option in **wimlib-imagex-apply** (1).

--no-acls

See the documentation for this option in **wimlib-imagex-apply** (1).

--strict-acls

See the documentation for this option in **wimlib-imagex-apply** (1).

--include-invalid-names

See the documentation for this option in **wimlib-imagex-apply** (1).

--to-stdout

Extract the files to standard output instead of to the filesystem. This can only be provided if all the specified *PATHs* are to regular files (not directories or reparse points). If present, alternate data streams are not extracted.

--dest-dir=DIR

Extract the files and directories to the directory *DIR* instead of to the current working directory.

--no-wildcards

Do not interpret wildcard characters in paths in the *LISTFILE*.

--strict-wildcards

Fail if any wildcard patterns in *LISTFILE* do not match any files or directories in the WIM image. The default behavior is to warn only. This option has no effect if **--no-wildcards** is also specified or if *PATHs* are specified instead of a *LISTFILE*; in those cases, an error is issued if any file to extract does not exist.

NOTES

See the documentation **wimlib-imagex apply** (1) for documentation about what data and metadata are extracted on UNIX-like systems versus on Windows.

On UNIX-like systems that support userspace filesystems with FUSE (e.g. Linux), one can alternatively mount the WIM image with **wimlib-imagex mount** (1) and then extract the desired files or directories using any standard command-line or graphical program.

Reparse-point fixups (a.k.a. changing absolute symbolic links and junctions to point within the extraction location) are never done by **wimlib-imagex extract**. Use **wimlib-imagex apply** if you want this behavior.

Unlike **wimlib-imagex apply**, **wimlib-imagex extract** does not support extracting files directly to a NTFS volume using libntfs-3g.

wimlib v1.6.0 and later can extract files from version 3584 WIMs, which usually use packed, LZMS-compressed streams and may carry the *.esd* file extension rather than *.wim*. However, *.esd* files downloaded directly by the Windows 8 web downloader have encrypted segments, and wimlib cannot extract such files until they are first decrypted. Furthermore, such files are not designed for random access, so extracting individual files from them may be slow.

EXAMPLES

Extract a file from the first image in "boot.wim" to the current directory:

```
wimlib-imagex extract boot.wim 1 /Windows/System32/notepad.exe
```

Extract a file from the first image in "boot.wim" to standard output:

```
wimlib-imagex extract boot.wim 1 /Windows/System32/notepad.exe \  
--to-stdout
```

Extract a file from the first image in "boot.wim" to the specified directory:

```
wimlib-imagex extract boot.wim 1 /Windows/System32/notepad.exe \  
--dest-dir=somedir
```

Extract the "sources" directory from the first image in "boot.wim" to the current directory:

```
wimlib-imagex extract boot.wim 1 /sources
```

Extract multiple files and directories in one command:

```
wimlib-imagex extract boot.wim 1 /Windows/Fonts \  
/sources /Windows/System32/cmd.exe
```

Extract files using a list file:

```
wimlib-imagex extract install.wim 1 @files.txt
```

... where files.txt could be something like:

```
Windows\System32\*.*  
Windows\System32\??-??\*.*  
Windows\System32\en-US\*.*
```

SEE ALSO

wimlib-imagex(1) **wimlib-imagex-apply(1)** **wimlib-imagex-dir(1)** **wimlib-imagex-info(1)** **wimlib-imagex-mount(1)**