

# BIBTOOL Quick Reference Card

for BIBTOOL version 2.66 — see also <http://www.gerd.neugebauer.de/software/TeX/BibTool/>  
©2016 Gerd Neugebauer ([gene@gerd-neugebauer.de](mailto:gene@gerd-neugebauer.de))

---

## Command line options

- **rsc\_command**  
Perform resource command as if given in a file.
- A type**  
Determine key disambiguation. *type* in 0, a, A,
- 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*.

## General

```
resource.search.path = {dir1:dir2...}  
resource {file}  
bibtex.search.path = {dir1:dir2...}  
bibtex.env.name = {ENV_NAME}  
env.separator = {c}  
dir.file.separator = {c}  
print {message}  
quiet = OnOff  
verbose = OnOff
```

## 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 {field1...fieldn "regex"}  
select {type1...typen }  
select.by.string {field1...fieldn "regex"}  
select.by.string.ignore {chars}  
select.case.sensitive = OnOff  
select.fields = {field1,field2,...}
```

## Field Manipulation

```
add.field {field="value"}  
delete.field {field}  
keep.field {field}  
keep.field {field if field2="pattern"}  
rename.field {old=new}  
rename.field {old=new if field="pattern"}  
rewrite.rule { pattern }  
delete all matching fields  
rewrite.rule { pattern # replacement}  
rewrite all fields  
rewrite.rule {f1...fn # 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
```

## Inheritance

```
crossref.map = OnOff  
clear.crossref.map {}  
crossref.limit = {n}  
expand.crossref = OnOff  
expand.xdata = OnOff
```

## BibTeX1.0

```
apply.alias = OnOff  
apply.include = OnOff  
apply.modify = OnOff  
key.make.alias = 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:

**% $\pm x.y$  n( $field$ )**  
    format  $y$  characters of  $x$  last names.  
**% $\pm x.y$  N( $field$ )**  
    format  $y$  characters of  $x$  names.  
**% $\pm x.y$  p( $field$ )**  
    format  $x$  names according to the name format  $y$ .  
**% $\pm x.y$  d( $field$ )**  
    format at most  $x$  digits of the  $y^{th}$  number.  
**% $\pm x.y$  D( $field$ )**  
    format  $x$  digits of the  $y^{th}$  number without truncation.  
**% $\pm x$  s( $field$ )**  
    format  $x$  string characters.

**% $\pm x.y$  t( $field$ )**  
    format  $x$  sentence words of length  $y$ .  
**% $\pm x.y$  T( $field$ )**  
    format  $x$  sentence words of length  $y$ .  
    (Words ignored)  
**% $\pm x.y$  w( $field$ )**  
    format  $x$  words of length  $y$ .  
**% $\pm x$  W( $field$ )**  
    format  $x$  words of length  $y$ . (Words ignored)  
**% $\pm x.y$  #n( $field$ )**  
    test whether the number of names is between  $x$  and  $y$ .  
**% $\pm x.y$  #N( $field$ )**  
    test whether the number of names is between  $x$  and  $y$ .  
**% $\pm x.y$  #p( $field$ )**  
    test whether the number of names is between  $x$  and  $y$ .  
**% $\pm x.y$  #s( $field$ )**  
    test whether the number of characters is between  $x$  and  $y$ .  
**% $\pm x.y$  #t( $field$ )**  
    test whether the number of words is between  $x$  and  $y$ .  
**% $\pm x.y$  #T( $field$ )**  
    test whether the number of not ignored words is between  $x$  and  $y$ .  
**% $\pm x.y$  #w( $field$ )**  
    test whether the number of words is between  $x$  and  $y$ .  
**% $\pm x.y$  #W( $field$ )**  
    test whether the number of not ignored words is between  $x$  and  $y$ .

## 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.  
**keep.bibtex** Keep only the fields of standard BIB<sub>TEX</sub> styles.  
**keep.biblatex** Keep only the fields of standard bib<sub>La</sub>TEX styles.  
**month** Introduce strings for month names.  
**opt** Remove OPT in field names.  
**sort fld** Specify sort order for fields.  
**tex\_def** Define <sub>TEX</sub> macros for formatting.  
**biblatex** Define entry types and fields known to bib<sub>La</sub>TEX.