

# BIBTOOL Quick Reference Card

for BIBTOOL version 2.68 — see also <http://www.gerd.neugebauer.de/software/TeX/BibTool/>  
©2019 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}
parse.exit.on.error = OnOff
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...field_n "regex"}
select {type1...type_n}
select.by.string {field1...field_n "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...f_n # 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.warning.rule {field # pattern # message}

check.error.rule {field # pattern # message}
check.case.sensitive = OnOff
unique.field {field}
```

## 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
```

## BibT<sub>E</sub>X1.0

```
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:

**%±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*.

## Libraries

<b>check_y</b>	Check the value of the year.
<b>default</b>	All default settings.
<b>field</b>	Redefine field names.
<b>brace</b>	Use braces as delimiters.
<b>improve</b>	Apply improvements.
<b>iso2tex</b>	Translate ISO 8859/1 characters.
<b>iso_def</b>	Define ISO 8859/1 characters for formatting.
<b>keep_bibtex</b>	Keep only the fields of standard BibTeX styles.
<b>keep_biblatex</b>	Keep only the fields of standard bibLaTeX styles.
<b>month</b>	Introduce strings for month names.
<b>opt</b>	Remove OPT in field names.
<b>sort_fld</b>	Specify sort order for fields.
<b>tex_def</b>	Define TeX macros for formatting.
<b>biblatex</b>	Define entry types and fields known to bibLaTeX.

## Environment Variables

<b>BIBTOOL</b>	Search path for rsc files
<b>BIBINPUTS</b>	Search path for bib files
<b>HOME</b>	Home directory for .bibtoolrsc