

NAME

tbl - format tables for *nroff* or *troff*

SYNOPSIS

tbl [-TX] [files] ...

DESCRIPTION

Tbl is a preprocessor for formatting tables for *nroff*(1) or *troff*(1). The input files are copied to the standard output, except for lines between .TS and .TE command lines, which are assumed to describe tables and are re-formatted by *tbl*. (The .TS and .TE command lines are not altered by *tbl*). Details are given in the reference manual cited below. As an example, letting → represent a tab (which should be typed as a genuine tab), the input:

```
.TS
center ;
cI s s
c c s
c c c
l n n .
Household Population
Town→Households
→Number→Size
=
Bedminster→789→3.26
Bernards Twp.→3087→3.74
Bernardsville→2018→3.30
Bound Brook→3425→3.04
Bridgewater→7897→3.81
Far Hills→240→3.19
.TE
```

yields:

Town	Household Population	
	Households Number	Size
Bedminster	789	3.26
Bernards Twp.	3087	3.74
Bernardsville	2018	3.30
Bound Brook	3425	3.04
Bridgewater	7897	3.81
Far Hills	240	3.19

If no arguments are given, *tbl* reads the standard input, so it may be used as a filter. When it is used with *eqn*(1) or *neqn*(1), *tbl* should come first to minimize the volume of data passed through pipes.

The -TX option forces *tbl* to use only full vertical line motions, making the output more suitable for devices that cannot generate partial vertical line motions (e.g., line printers).

SEE ALSO

TBL - *A Program to Format Tables* by M. E. Lesk
eqn(1), *mm*(1), *mmt*(1), *nroff*(1), *mm*(7), *mv*(7).