

# BIBTOOL Quick Reference Card

for BIBTOOL version 2.65 — 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}
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
```

## Bib<sub>T</sub><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:

**% $\pm x.y$  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.  
**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.  
**biblatex** Define entry types and fields known to bibL<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.