

# odbcinst

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command line tool for batch ODBC configuration

## Synopsis

**odbcinst** *action object options*

**action** is one of

**-i**

install a driver or data source

**-u**

uninstall a driver or data source

**-q**

query a list of drivers or data sources present on the system

**--version**

shows the version number of the program

**object** is one of

**-d**

an ODBC driver in */etc/odbcinst.ini*

**-s**

an ODBC Data Source Name (DSN) in an *odbc.ini* file.

**options** are zero or more of

**-f** *template file*

Used with **-i**, this option specifies a template file containing the driver or DSN to be installed.

**-r**

Read the template from standard input.

**-n** *Driver/Data Source Name*

Used with **-u** to specify a driver or DSN to remove.

**-v**

Contrary to standard practice, this turns **off** verbose output; there is no output, even for errors.

**-l**

The specified Data Source object is a System DSN, in */etc/odbc.ini*.

**-h**

The specified Data Source object is a User DSN, in the current user's *\$HOME/.odbc.ini*. This is the default with **-s**.

## add an example, a script, a trick and tips

: email address (won't be displayed)

: name

### Step 2

**What command(s) is this example for ?**

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## examples

0

[source](#)

```
which odbcinst > /dev/null ||  
{
```

```
echo >&2 "no  
usable odbcinst program"
```

```
exit 1
```

```
}
```

```
odbcinst -u -d -n "$1"  
|| true
```

```
odbcinst -u -l -s -n "$2"  
|| true
```

## description

**odbcinst** updates the configuration files that control ODBC access to database servers on the current host. It also maintains in */etc/odbcinst.ini* a count of the number of references to a particular driver, which can be used to determine whether it should be removed from the file (only when the reference count drops to 0).

### Installing

Drivers and DSNs are installed using the **-i** option.

If the object to be installed is a *driver* (**-d**), the specified driver is added to */etc/odbcinst.ini* or its reference count is incremented if it is already there.

If the object is a *data source* (**-s**), the data source is added either to */etc/odbc.ini* (if **-I** is used) or to *\$HOME/.odbc.ini* (the default, which can also be specified with **-h**).

### Uninstalling

Uninstalling a driver is done with the command **odbcinst -u -d -n driver name**. Uninstalling a DSN is done with the command **odbcinst -u -s -n data source name**. Uninstalling causes the reference count on

the object to be decremented. If nothing else has requested this driver or DSN (i.e., the reference count drops to zero), it is removed from the config file.

The options **-l** and **-h** are used with **-s** to specify which *odbc.ini* file to configure.

## Queries

The command **odbcinst -q -d** returns a list of all drivers present in */etc/odbcinst.ini*. The command **odbcinst -q -s** returns a list of all system and user DSNs available.

## exit status

0

Success

non-zero

Failure

## files

*/etc/odbcinst.ini*, */etc/odbc.ini*, *\$HOME/.odbc.ini*

## template files

A typical driver template looks like this:

[MySQL]

Description = MySQL driver

Driver = /usr/lib/odbc/libmyodbc.so

Setup = /usr/lib/odbc/libodbcmyS.so

A DSN template looks like this:

[Sample DSN]

Description = Test MySQL connection

Driver = MySQL

Trace = Yes

TraceFile = /tmp/odbc.log

Database = junk

Server = localhost

Port = 3306

Socket =

The **Description** and **Driver** fields should be present in all DSN configurations. Other options are driver-specific; consult your ODBC driver's documentation for a list of allowed options, or see **ODBCConfig(1)** for a graphical tool that can be used to interactively set up a DSN or driver the first time.

*see also*

**ODBCConfig, gODBCConfig**

*author*

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