

# Administrative Tools

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## Command-line utilities

MySQL ships with many command-line database administration utilities for \*nix and Windows (Table 18-1).

**Table 18-1: MySQL 5&6 Command-line Utilities under Linux/Unix and Windows**

<i>Utility</i>	<i>Linux/Unix</i>	<i>Windows</i>	<i>Reads Option File</i>
mysql2mysql	Yes	No	No
myisamchk	Yes	Yes	Yes
myisampack	Yes	Yes	Yes
mysql_install_db ( <a href="#">Ch 3</a> )	Yes	No	No
mysql_upgrade	Since 5.0.19/5.1.7	Buggy	No
mysqlaccess	Yes	No	No
mysqladmin	Yes	Yes	Yes
mysqlbinlog	Yes	Yes	No
mysqlbug	Yes	Yes	No
mysqlcheck	Yes	Yes	Yes
mysqldump	Yes	Yes	Yes
mysqlhotcopy	Yes	Yes	Yes
mysqlimport	Yes	Yes	Yes
mysqlmanager	discontinued 6.0.5	discontinued 6.0.5	Yes
mysql proxy ( <a href="#">Ch 3</a> )	Yes	Yes	No
mysqlshow	Yes	Yes	Yes
mysqlshutdown	No	To 5.0.5	No
mysqlslap	5.1.4	5.1.4	Yes
mysqlwatch	No	To 5.0.5	No
my_print_defaults	Yes	Yes	Yes
pack_isam	Yes	Yes	Yes
perror	Yes	Yes	No
replace	Yes	Yes	No

Windows versions of MySQL no longer include *WinMySQLAdmin*. *MySQLAdministrator* may be downloaded from <http://dev.mysql.com/downloads/gui-tools/5.0.html> as part of the GUI Tools package. For notes on *mysql\_upgrade* see [Chapter 3](#) (Upgrades).

## Command-line utility syntax and option files

Utilities that read option files generally do so under the conventions described in [Chapter 3](#) (Using option files). They read from the [client] section of these files, and in addition from an options file section named after themselves, so for example *mysqladmin* reads from a [mysqladmin] section, if present. Options are single words, for example *check*, or hyphenated words, for example *update-state*. If the option sets a variable, the syntax is the same as for the server:

```
varName=value
```

You can also use command-line arguments to tell these utilities which configuration file(s) to read, or to read no configuration file at all:

```
--defaults-file=fileName
```

This tells the utility to read options from *fileName*.

```
--defaults-extra-file=fileName
```

This tells the utility to read *fileName* after reading the global option file(s).

```
--no-defaults
```

This tells the utility to read no option file.

Generally, utilities that read option files also accept command-line arguments which are those same options prefixed with a double hyphen, for example *--check*, *--update-state*, or *--varname=value*. Often the program recognises one-character abbreviations of such commands, for example *-c* for *--check*, *-U* for *--update-state*, and *-O* for the deprecated syntax *--set-variable=varName=value*. These abbreviations can be concatenated, for example *-cU*. You can also instruct the programs to simply print help, arguments or version information, then exit:

```
?, --help
```

Display help and exit.

```
--print-defaults
```

Display the options that would be in force without additional arguments, then exit (not *mysqlhotcopy*).

```
-V, --version
```

Display version information and exit.

Since 5.1.21, *mysql*, *mysqladmin*, *mysqlbinlog*, *mysqlcheck*, *mysqldump*, *mysqlimport*, *mysqlshow*, *mysqlslap*, *mysqltest*, and *mysql\_upgrade* also accept the options *--debug-check* (show debug info on exit) and *--debug-info* (also show CPU and memory statistics).

To read the rest of this and other chapters, [buy a copy of the book](#)

