

# ISO date in ls -l

By default, the ls command shows a short and inconsistent date/time column. No year is being displayed if the file is less than a year old. To change this behaviour and always display the full iso date and time, edit `~/ .bashrc` and adjust or add the ls alias line like so:

```
alias ls='ls --color=auto --time-style=long-iso'
```

Then log out and back into the terminal or use the following command to apply the config change:

```
source ~/.bashrc
```

On other shells, it may have to be added to `.profile`. If an alias is not the preferred way, the default time-style can be set using the environment variable `TIME_STYLE` either via `.bashrc` or `.profile` or system-wide in `/etc/profile`

```
export TIME_STYLE="long-iso"
```

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