Miscellaneous flags

		Example: **whois -h whois.ripe.net -q sources**		

Flag	Argument	Objects returned by query
-s	Source(s)	Specifies source database(s) and in which order to look up when performing a query.
-R		Switches off referrals for domain lookups. Query will only return an object in the local database that matches the lookup key.
-K		Only the primary keys of an object are returned. The exceptions are set objects where the member's attributes will also be returned. This flag does not apply to **person** and **role** objects.
-h	Server address	Specifies a query of another server.
-k	Optional normal query	Requests a persistent connection. A client may issue multiple queries on the same connection. The server will not close the connection until it receives a **-k** without an argument (after the first one).
-B		Switches off default e-mail filtering behaviour. Shows entire object including all e-mail addresses.
-G		Turns off logical grouping of objects in query results and lists objects according to type.
-g	Mirroring request	Request an NRMT stream from the server.
-b		Brief output mode. Only shows primary key (address range) and abuse mailboxes.
-F		Produce output using shorthand notation for attribute names.

Commonly used flags

Inverse Lookups:		

Flag	Argument	Objects returned by query
-i person	NIC handle	Objects with matching *admin-c*, *tech-c*, *zone-c* or *author*.
-i mnt-by	Maintainer name	Objects with a matching *mnt-by*.

Narrowing Down or Broadening Search:		

Flag	Argument	Effect
-r		Switches off recursive search for contact information after retrieving the objects that match the lookup key.
-T	Object type(s)	Restricts the type of objects to look up in the query.
-a		Specifies that the server should perform lookups in all available source database(s). See also "**-q sources**" query.

Database help

		Example: **whois -h whois.ripe.net -t person**		

Flag	Argument	Returns
-t	Object type	Template for the specified object type.
-v	Object type	Verbose template for the specified object type.
	"help"	List of query options available in the database.
-q	"sources"	Current set of sources along with the information required for mirroring.
-q	"version"	Current version of the server.
-q	"types"	A list of all available object types.
-V	Client tag	Sends information about the client to the server.

Last updated: June 2008

RIPE NCC

RIPE Database Queries
Reference Card

This reference card lists query options (flags) available for the RIPE Database:

- Queries using primary and lookup keys
- Inverse queries
- IP address lookups
- Miscellaneous queries
- Database help
- List of commonly used flags

Note: most e-mail addresses are hidden in the whois query results. Use the **-B** flag to change this when making a query

The flags in this reference card work on both the RIPE Database web interface and the command line client. The web interface is available at:
www.ripe.net/whois

The command line client is available to download at:
www.ripe.net/db/tools

For more documentation, see:
www.ripe.net/ripe/docs/database.html

The RIPE Database contains contact and registration information for networks in the RIPE NCC service region.

For more information about the RIPE Database, see:
www.ripe.net/db

This RIPE Database Queries Reference Card can also be found online at:
www.ripe.net/db/support/db-refcard.pdf

Queries using primary and lookup keys

Lookup key	Objects returned by query
Address prefix or range	IPv4 – Most specific **inetnum** and/or **route**. IPv6 – Most specific **inet6num** and/or **route6**.
Single address	IPv4 – Most specific **inetnum** and/or **route** and **inet-rtr** containing the address. IPv6 – Most specific **inet6num** and/or **route6** and **inet-rtr** containing the address.
Network name	All **inetnum** and **inet6num** objects with a *netname* containing the name specified in the query.
Person or role name	All **person** and **role** objects with a *person* or *role* attribute containing the name specified in the query.
NIC handle	**person** or **role** with a matching *nic-hdl*.
Organisation name	All **organisation** objects with an *org-name* containing the name specified in the query.
Organisation ID	**organisation** with a matching primary key.
Maintainer name	**mntner** with a matching primary key.
IRT name	**irt** with a matching primary key.
AS Number	**aut-num** object with a matching *aut-num* and associated **as-block**.
AS Number – AS Number	**as-block** whose primary key matches or fully contains the query range.
Set name	**as-set**, **filter-set**, **peering-set**, **route-set** or **rtr-set** with a matching primary key.
Domain/reverse domain	**domain** or **inet-rtr** with a matching primary key.
Route/route6	Exact match or less specific **route**/**route6** object and exact match or less specific **inetnum**/**inetnum6** object.
E-mail	**person**, **role** and **organisation** objects with a matching *e-mail*.
Key-cert	**key-cert** with a matching primary key.
Router interface address	**inet-rtr** with an *ifaddr* containing the IPv4 or IPv6 address specified in the query.

Inverse queries

Flag	Alt. flag	Lookup key	Objects returned by query
-i ac	-i admin-c	NIC handle or person name	Objects with a matching *admin-c*.
-i tc	-i tech-c	NIC handle or person name	Objects with a matching *tech-c*.
-i zc	-i zone-c	NIC handle or person name	Objects with a matching *zone-c*.
-i pn	-i person	NIC handle or person name	Objects with a matching *admin-c*, *tech-c*, *zone-c* or *author*.
-i mb	-i mnt-by	Maintainer name	Objects with a matching *mnt-by*.
-i ml	-i mnt-lower	Maintainer name	Objects with a matching *mnt-lower*.
-i mu	-i mnt-routes	Maintainer name	Objects with a matching *mnt-routes*.
-i mz	-i mnt-ref	Maintainer name	Objects with a matching *mnt-ref*.
-i md	-i mnt-domains	Maintainer name	Objects with a matching *mnt-domains*.
-i dt	-i upd-to	E-mail	**mntner** objects with a matching *upd-to*.
-i mn	-i mnt-nfy	E-mail	**mntner** objects with a matching *mnt-nfy*.
-i ny	-i notify	E-mail	Objects with a matching *notify*.
-i ns	-i nserver	Domain name or single address	**domain** objects with a matching *nserver*.
-i at	-i auth	Key-cert ID	**mntner** objects where the *auth* matches the specified **key-cert** object.
-i fp	-i fingerpr	Fingerprint	**key-cert** objects with a matching *fingerpr*.
-i rn	-i ref-nfy	E-mail	Objects with a matching *ref-nfy*.
-i mr	-i mbrs-by-ref	Maintainer name	Set objects (**as-set**, **route-set** and **rtr-set**) with a matching *mbrs-by-ref*.

Flag	Alt. flag	Lookup key	Objects returned by query
-i og	-i org	Organisation name	Objects with a matching *org*.
-i iy	-i irt-nfy	E-mail	**irt** objects with a matching *irt-nfy*.
-i mi	-i mnt-irt	IRT name	**inetnum** and **inet6num** objects with a matching *mnt-irt*.
-i la	-i local-as	AS Number	**inet-rtr** objects with a matching *local-as*.
-i mo	-i member-of	Set name	Objects with a matching *member-of*, if their membership claim is validated by the *mbrs-by-ref* of the set.
-i or	-i origin	AS Number	**route** and **route6** objects with a matching *origin*.
-i am	-i abuse-mailbox	E-mail	Objects with a matching *abuse-mailbox*.
-i sd	-i sub-dom	Domain name	**domain** object with matching *sub-dom* attribute.

IP address lookups

Flag	Objects returned by query
-x	All **inetnum**, **inet6num**, **route** or **route6** objects with an exactly matching prefix will be returned.
-M	All more specific **inetnum**, **inet6num**, **route** or **route6** objects, excluding exact matches.
-m	First level more specific **inetnum**, **inet6num**, **route** or **route6** objects, excluding exact matches.
-L	All less specific **inetnum**, **inet6num**, **route** or **route6** objects, including exact matches.
-l	First level less specific **inetnum**, **inet6num**, **route** or **route6** objects, excluding exact matches.
-d	Enables use of the **-m**, **-M**, **-x**, **-l** and **-L** flags to return reverse delegation domain objects.
-c	The most specific **inetnum**, **inet6num** object and any related **irt** and/or **route** and **route6** objects from this or the closest less specific object. This flag is included by default to all IP address queries.
-C	This flag prevents the **-c** flag being included by default.