

# head

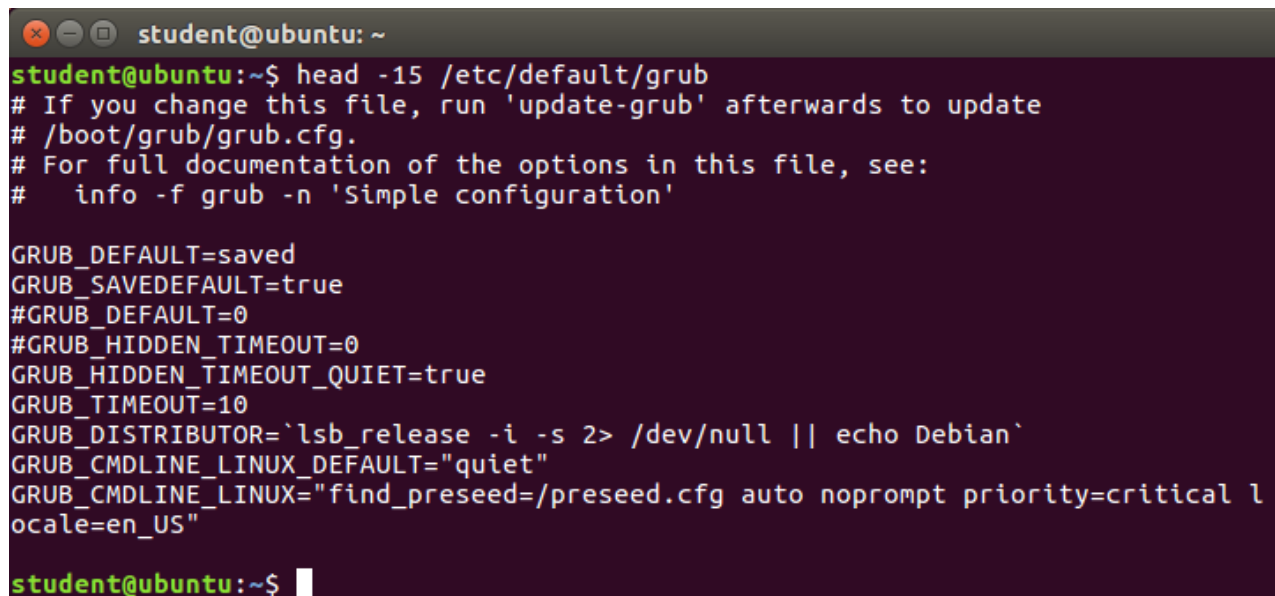
[coursera.org/learn/linux-tools-for-developers/supplement/b9ryE/head](https://coursera.org/learn/linux-tools-for-developers/supplement/b9ryE/head)

**head** reads the first few lines of each named file (10 by default) and displays it on standard output. You can give a different number of lines in an option.

For example, if you want to print the first 5 lines from **grub.cfg**, use the following command:

```
$ head -n 5 grub.cfg
```

You can also just say **head -5 grub.cfg**.



```
student@ubuntu: ~  
student@ubuntu:~$ head -15 /etc/default/grub  
# If you change this file, run 'update-grub' afterwards to update  
# /boot/grub/grub.cfg.  
# For full documentation of the options in this file, see:  
#   info -f grub -n 'Simple configuration'  
  
GRUB_DEFAULT=saved  
GRUB_SAVEDefault=true  
#GRUB_DEFAULT=0  
#GRUB_HIDDEN_TIMEOUT=0  
GRUB_HIDDEN_TIMEOUT_QUIET=true  
GRUB_TIMEOUT=10  
GRUB_DISTRIBUTOR=`lsb_release -i -s 2> /dev/null || echo Debian`  
GRUB_CMDLINE_LINUX_DEFAULT="quiet"  
GRUB_CMDLINE_LINUX="find_preseed=/preseed.cfg auto noprompt priority=critical l  
ocale=en_US"  
  
student@ubuntu:~$
```