

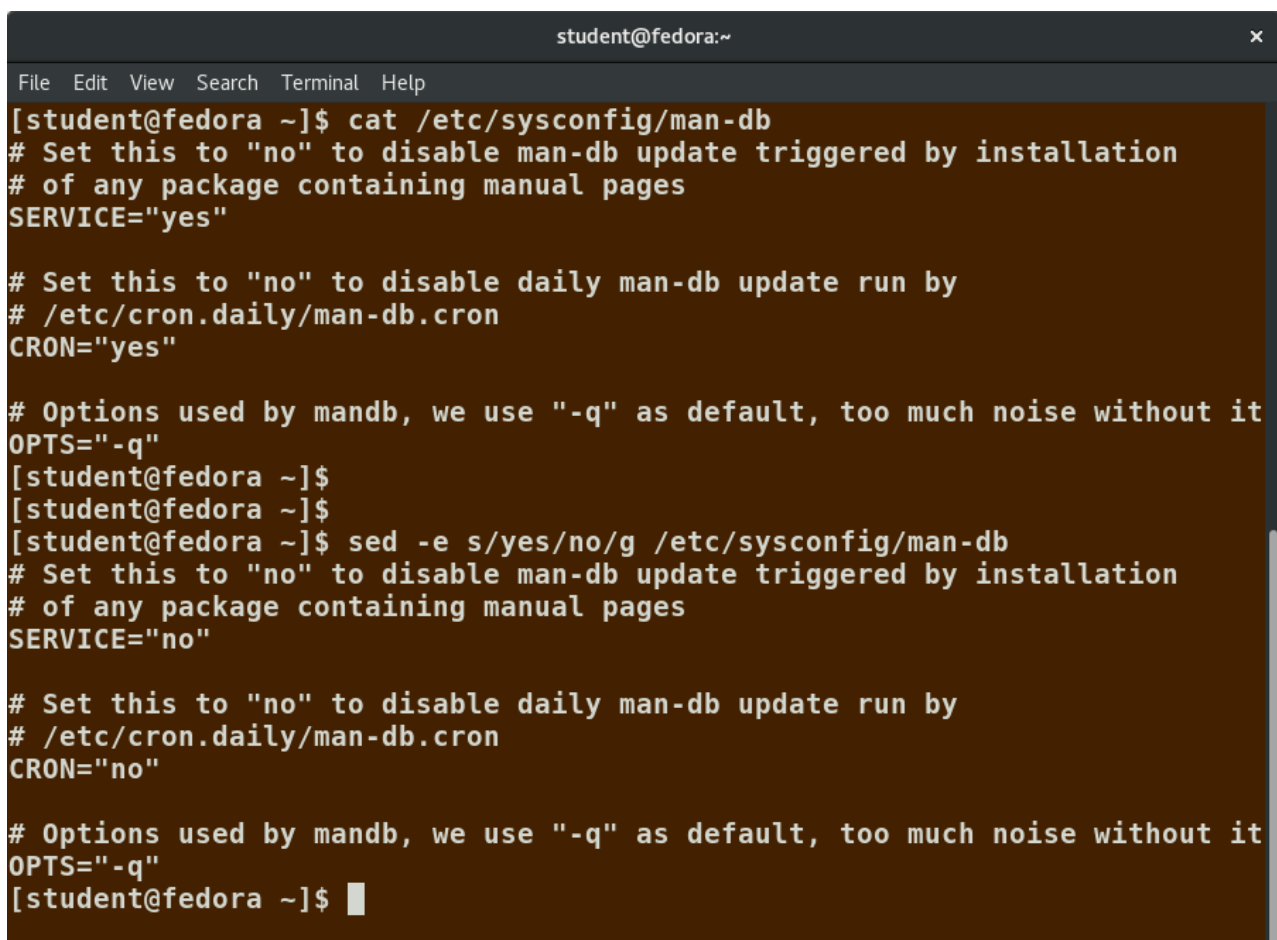
sed Command Syntax and Basic Operations

coursera.org/learn/linux-tools-for-developers/supplement/ExA7P/sed-command-syntax-and-basic-operations

You can invoke **sed** using commands like those listed in the accompanying table.

Command	Usage
sed -e command <filename>	Specify editing commands at the command line, operate on file and put the output on standard out (e.g. the terminal)
sed -f scriptfile <filename>	Specify a scriptfile containing sed commands, operate on file and put output on standard out

The **-e** command option allows you to specify multiple editing commands simultaneously at the command line. It is unnecessary if you only have one operation invoked.

A terminal window titled 'student@fedora:~' with a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Search, Terminal, Help). The terminal shows the following sequence of commands and output:

```
[student@fedora ~]$ cat /etc/sysconfig/man-db
# Set this to "no" to disable man-db update triggered by installation
# of any package containing manual pages
SERVICE="yes"

# Set this to "no" to disable daily man-db update run by
# /etc/cron.daily/man-db.cron
CRON="yes"

# Options used by mandb, we use "-q" as default, too much noise without it
OPTS="-q"
[student@fedora ~]$
[student@fedora ~]$
[student@fedora ~]$ sed -e s/yes/no/g /etc/sysconfig/man-db
# Set this to "no" to disable man-db update triggered by installation
# of any package containing manual pages
SERVICE="no"

# Set this to "no" to disable daily man-db update run by
# /etc/cron.daily/man-db.cron
CRON="no"

# Options used by mandb, we use "-q" as default, too much noise without it
OPTS="-q"
[student@fedora ~]$
```

Now that you know that you can perform multiple editing and filtering operations with **sed**, let's explain some of them in more detail. The table explains some basic operations, where **pattern** is the current string and **replace_string** is the new string:

Command	Usage
sed s/pattern/replace_string/file	Substitute first string occurrence in every line
sed s/pattern/replace_string/g file	Substitute all string occurrences in every line
sed 1,3s/pattern/replace_string/g file	Substitute all string occurrences in a range of lines
sed -i s/pattern/replace_string/g file	Save changes for string substitution in the same file

You must use the **-i** option with care, because the action is not reversible. It is always safer to use **sed** without the **-i** option and then replace the file yourself, as shown in the following example:

```
$ sed s/pattern/replace_string/g file1 > file2
```

The above command will replace all occurrences of **pattern** with **replace_string** in **file1** and move the contents to **file2**. The contents of **file2** can be viewed with **cat file2**. If you approve, you can then overwrite the original file with **mv file2 file1**.

Example: To convert **01/02/... to JAN/FEB/...**

```
sed -e 's/01/JAN/' -e 's/02/FEB/' -e 's/03/MAR/' -e 's/04/APR/' -e 's/05/MAY/' \
    -e 's/06/JUN/' -e 's/07/JUL/' -e 's/08/AUG/' -e 's/09/SEP/' -e 's/10/OCT/' \
    -e 's/11/NOV/' -e 's/12/DEC/'
```

Press ESC to exit the code block at any time