

SKILL#

Cadence SKILL++ Enhanced Framework

Targeted Audience : Anyone who writes SKILL

Created by [Aurélien Buchet](#)

Open Source Repository on [GitHub](#)

Introduction

Out-of-the-Box Tools

- Advanced Linter
- Code formatter
- Enhanced Finder

Advanced SKILL++ Features

- Unit-Testing Framework
- Documentation Generation
- On-Demand Type-Checking
- Fully Tested API

Requirements

To Use

Virtuoso with `$CDS_INST_DIR` defined

To Develop

- [GNU Make](#)
- [shellcheck](#) \geq 0.10.0
- [shellspec](#) \geq 0.28.1
- [scc](#)
- [fd](#)

Standalone Usage

`$SKILL_SHARP_ROOT/bin/sharp` commands:

Command	Documentation
<code>sharp help</code>	Display available commands and arguments.
<code>sharp lint</code>	Run advanced Linter on provided files.
<code>sharp test</code>	Load files and print test report.
<code>sharp globals</code>	Load files and report global definitions.
<code>sharp docgen</code>	Load files and print associated <code>.fnd</code> content.

Usage Inside Virtuoso

In the CIW or in `.cdsinit` to enable all SKILL# features:

```
(load (simplifyFilename "$SKILL_SHARP_ROOT/skill/loader.scm"))
```

`$SKILL_SHARP_ROOT` *should point to the installation root*

Features

Advanced Linter

Waiver

Detect unused local functions

Detect superseded functions

Hints

Formatter

Type-Checking

On-Demand

```
(@fun join
  ( ( char      ?type symbol|string          ) ; char is a symbol or a string
    @rest
    ( strings ?type ( symbol|string ... ) ) ; strings is a list of symbols or strings
  )
  ?doc "Join STRINGS using CHAR as junction character."
  ?out string                               ; output is a string
  (buildString strings char)
)
```

To enable strict type-checking:

Set `$SKILL_SHARP_STRICT_TYPE_CHECKING` to TRUE

Type-Checking

Always Disabled

```
;; Type-checking always disabled  
;; (Still useful for documentation)  
  
(@fun convert_to_string  
  ( ( name ?type symbol )  
    )  
  ?doc      "Convert NAME to a string and return it."  
  ?out      string  
  ?strict nil                                     ; Type-checking is disabled here  
  (strcat name)  
  )
```

Type-Checking

Always Enabled

```
;; Type-checking always enabled  
;; (Useful for top functions)
```

```
(@fun double  
  ( ( num ?type float|integer )  
    )  
  ?doc      "Return the double of NUM as a float."  
  ?out      float  
  ?strict t                                     ; Type-checking is forced here  
  ( num * 2.0 )  
  )
```

Documentation Generation Enhanced Finder

- Search in name, description, ...
- Match PCREs
- Case-sensitive when upper case
- Restrict to name, description, ...

The screenshot shows the 'Cadence SKILL API Finder' application window. At the top, there's a search bar with 'SKILL#' entered and a 'Go' button. Below the search bar are checkboxes for 'Match case', 'Match beginning', and 'Match end'. The 'Results' section displays a table with two columns: 'Function' and 'Section'. The 'Function' column lists various SKILL functions, and the 'Section' column lists the corresponding sections. The 'Description' section shows the details for the '@alphalessp' function, including its signature, a description of its behavior, and example code snippets.

Search in: SKILL#
Find what: Go
☐ Match case ☐ Match beginning ☐ Match end

Results Save...

Function	Section
@alphalessp	SKILL#
@arglist	SKILL#
@assert	SKILL#
@assertion	SKILL#
@basename	SKILL#
@bash	SKILL#
@built_obj	SKILL#
@case	SKILL#

Description More Info...

@alphalessp
str0 string
str1 string
)
=> t|nil

Improved 'alphalessp' for strings containing numbers.
It relies on 'alphaNumCmp' and returns t if STR0 is lower than STR1 regarding alphanumeric comparison.
It returns nil otherwise.

This comparison works nicely with software versions.

```
;; Usage comparison between 'alphalessp' and '@alphalessp'.  
;; For simple strings '@alphalessp' behaves like 'alphalessp'  
(@alphalessp "a_is_before_b" "b_is_after_a")  
  
(alphalessp "a_is_before_b" "b_is_after_a")  
  
;; But '@alphalessp' is smarter with numbers  
(@alphalessp "file_1_a.txt" "file_100_a.txt")  
  
(alphalessp "file_1_a.txt" "file_100_a.txt")  


118 matches found


```

F-Strings

;; Values are placed where they should be evaluated:

```
(@str "The result of 12 plus 27 is {12+27}.)")
```

```
(@str "
```

```
The current shell is {(getShellEnvVar "SHELL")}.
The current time is {(getCurrentTime)}.
")
```

;; `printf` formatting is supported

```
pi = (acos -1)
```

```
(@str "
```

```
This is pi with four decimals: {pi%0.4f}. \n\
The default is {pi}. \n\
")
```

Letf

```
;; `simplifyFilename` breaks if `(rexMagic)` is nil.
(progn (rexMagic nil) (simplifyFilename "$SHELL"))

;; `@letf` uses `setf` to set anything temporarily.
(@letf ( ( (rexMagic) t ) ) (simplifyFilename "$SHELL"))
(rexMagic) ; `(rexMagic)` value is still nil.

;; `@letf` works with any `setf` helper
(@letf ( ( (rexMagic) nil )
          ( (getShellEnvVar "CUSTOM_VARIABLE") "TRUE" )
          ( (status optimizeTailCall) t )
        )
  (list (rexMagic) (getShellEnvVar "CUSTOM_VARIABLE") (status optimizeTailCall))
)
```