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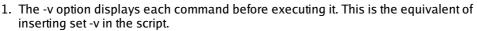Home > Faq > BASH Shell

Bash Script Flags

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Can you explain me common UNIX / Linux / Mac OS X / BSD bash shell script flags?

You can pass -v and -x option to #!/bin/sh or #!/bin/bash:

Flags

1. The -v option displays each command before executing it. This is the equivalent of inserting set -v in the script.
2. The -x option displays the result each command. This is the equivalent of inserting set -x in the script.

[1]

Above flags are useful for debugging shell problems:

```
#!/bin/sh -x
FILE="/etc/resolv.conf"
echo "This is a test"
[ ! -f $FILE ] || echo "File $FILE does not exist"
```

You can run them from command prompt itself:

```
sh -x /path/to/script
bash -xv /path/to/script
sh -nv /path/to/script
```

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