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How To Write First UNIX Korn Shell Script Program

Posted by [Vivek Gite](#) <vivek@nixcraft.com>This entry is part 1 of 3 in the series [UNIX Korn Shell Scripting](#) ^[1][UNIX Korn Shell Scripting](#) ^[1]

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Can you tell me how to write a UNIX korn shell script program? I'm new to UNIX scripting and HP-UX UNIX operating system.

Korn shell scripting under UNIX / Linux can be used to automate lots of stuff. It easy to write a shell script. You must know how to use a text editor such as vi to write a script.

^[4]

Writing your first Korn shell script

Let us write a shell program to print knowledge is power on screen. Type the following command to open file:

```
vi hello.ksh
```

The first line should be as follows:

```
#!/bin/ksh
```

It is called a shebang. It consists of a number sign and an exclamation point character (!), followed by the full path to the interpreter such as /bin/ksh. All scripts under UNIX execute using the interpreter specified on a first line. Next append code as follows:

```
# A shell script to print message
# Written by Tom - Jan/13/2008
print "Knowledge is power"
```

Save and close the file. At the end your script should look like as follows:

```
#!/bin/ksh
# A shell script to print message
# Written by Tom - Jan/13/2008
# -----
print "Knowledge is power"
```

Set executable permission

Type the following command to set executable permission:

```
chmod +x hello.ksh
```

Run your korn shell script

Type the following command:

```
./hello.ksh
```

Sample output:

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