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## Bash Shell Temporarily Disable an Alias

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I've couple of shell aliases defined in ~/.bashrc file. How do I temporarily remove (disable) a shell alias and call the core command directly without using unalias command?

An alias command enables a replacement of a word with another string. It is mainly used for abbreviating a system command, or for adding default arguments to a regularly used command.



[1]

## Display currently defined aliases

Type the following command:

```
$ alias
```

Sample output:

```
alias cp='cp -i'
alias dntop='dntop -l 5 eth1'
alias grep='grep --color'
alias l.='ls -d .* --color=tty'
alias ll='ls -l --color=tty'
alias ls='ls --color=tty'
alias mv='mv -i'
alias rm='rm -i'
alias update='yum update'
alias updatey='yum -y update'
alias vi='vim'
alias vnstat='vnstat -i eth1'
alias which='alias | /usr/bin/which --tty-only --read-alias --show-dot --show-tilde'
alias vnstat='vnstat -i eth1'
```

## Creating an alias

Create an alias called c for the commonly used clear command, which clear the screen:

```
$ alias c='clear'
```

Then, to clear the screen, instead of typing clear, the user would only have to type the letter c and press the [ENTER] key:

```
$ c
```

## How do I disabled alias temporarily?

An alias can be disabled temporarily and the core command get called directly. Just prefix command with a backslash. Create an alias called [vnstat](#)<sup>[2]</sup>:

```
$ alias vnstat='vnstat -i eth1'
$ vnstat
```

Sample output:

```
Database updated: Fri Mar 13 15:30:01 2009
```

```
eth1
```

```

received:      158.48 GB (20.9%)
transmitted:   599.82 GB (79.1%)
total:         758.30 GB

-----+-----+-----
rx      | tx      | total
-----+-----+-----
yesterday 2.83 GB | 10.90 GB | 13.73 GB
today     1.92 GB |  7.31 GB |  9.23 GB
-----+-----+-----
estimated 2.97 GB | 11.28 GB | 14.25 GB

```

Now disabled vnstat alias temporarily, enter:

```
$ \vnstat
```

Sample output:

```

eth1:
  rx      / tx      / total / estimated
yesterday 2.83 GB / 10.90 GB / 13.73 GB
today     1.92 GB /  7.31 GB /  9.23 GB / 14.24 GB

eth0:
yesterday 655.05 MB /  2.02 GB /  2.66 GB
today     438.01 MB /  1.43 GB /  1.86 GB /  2.86 GB

```

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[1] Image: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/category/bash-shell/>

[2] vnstat: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/keeping-a-log-of-daily-network-traffic-for-adsl-or-dedicated-remote-linux-box.html>