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Search Text File In UNIX

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How do I search the input text files for lines matching given words or strings under UNIX operating systems?

To search for a particular word or string in a file, use the grep command.



Syntax

The basic syntax of the grep command is as follows:

```
grep string fileName
grep word fileName
grep "word1 word2" fileName
```

Examples

For example, to find Vivek Gite's email id, type grep, and the file containing the information:

```
grep Vivek users.txt
grep "Vivek Gite" users.txt
grep "Gite" users.txt
```

Sample outputs:

```
Vivek Gite 123-455-676 vivek@nixcraft.com
```

To search word apple in all text file (*.txt) enter:

```
grep apple *.txt
```

You can also search for lines without a certain words. For example, display all line that do not contain the word "usb"

```
grep -v "usb" *
```

See more grep command examples [2] here.

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URLs in this post:

- [1] Image: http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/category/unix/
- [2] grep command examples: http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/howto-use-grep-command-in-linux-unix/

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