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Display or print UNIX / Linux path ~ $PATH variable

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Q. How do I print current path settings under BASH shell? I'm using Debian Linux.

A. In UNIX / Linux file systems, the human-readable address of a resource is defined by PATH. On Unix / Linux like operating systems, (as well as on DOS / Windows and its descendants), PATH is an environment variable listing a set of paths to directories where executables may be found.

[1]

Display current PATH

Use echo command:

```
$ echo $PATH
```

Output:

```
/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin:/sbin:/bin:/usr/bin/X11:/usr/games
```

Modify current PATH

Use export command to add /opt/games to PATH, enter:

```
export PATH=$PATH:/opt/games
```

To format your PATH variable for easy viewing, add following code to your bash startup file (such as ~/.bashrc or ~/.bash_profile) :

```
function path(){
    old=$IFS
    IFS=:
    printf "%s\n" $PATH
    IFS=$old
}
```

(Function credit: usenet archive)

Now just run path:

```
$ path
```

Output:

```
/usr/local/sbin
/usr/local/bin
/usr/sbin
/usr/bin
/sbin
/bin
/usr/bin/X11
/usr/games
```

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