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BASH Shell: Test If a File Is Writable or Not

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Q. How can you test if a file is writable under UNIX / Linux bash shell scripting?

A. You can easily test if a file is writable or noting test command under UNIX / Linux.



The -w option

The -w option is used to test if a FILE exists and write permission is granted or not. It returns true if a file is writable.

[1]

General syntax is as follows:

```
[ -w filename ] && echo "Writable" || echo "Not Writable"
test -w filename && echo "Writable" || echo "Not Writable"
```

Here is a sample shell script:

```
#!/bin/bash
FILE="$1"

[ $# -eq 0 ] && exit 1

if [ -w "$FILE" ]
then
    echo "Write permission is granted on $FILE"
else
    echo "Write permission is NOT granted on $FILE"
fi
```

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