

Table Of Contents

Table Of Contents	1
-------------------------	---

[Home](#) > [Faq](#) > [BASH Shell](#)

Shell script error – bad interpreter messages and solution

Posted by [Vivek Gite](#) <vivek@nixcraft.com>

. I have downloaded some shell script but when I try to run these shell scripts I get error bad interpreter... How do I fix this error?

A. Make sure you have required shell installed. Each shell script specifies default interpreter at top of the script. For example, consider following script:

```
#!/bin/sh
# This is...
clear
A=`pwd`
...
.....
...
```

#!/bin/sh is default interpreter to execute this script. Use `ls` command to verify that you have `/bin/sh` installed

```
$ ls /bin/sh
```

If `/bin/sh` is not installed, use `rpm`, `up2date` or `apt-get` command to install required shell.

Another problem is if script was edited or written on MS-DOS platform, you will see CR/CRLF in script. Use `dos2unix` command to convert these scripts to UNIX format.

```
dos2unix script-file-name
```

4000+ howtos and counting! Want to read more Linux / UNIX howtos, tips and tricks? Subscribe to our [daily email](#) newsletter or [weekly newsletter](#) to make sure you don't miss a single tip/tricks. Alternatively, subscribe via [RSS/XML](#) feed.

Article printed from Frequently Asked Questions About Linux / UNIX: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/>

URL to article: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/bad-interpreter-messages-and-solution/>
