

Table Of Contents

Table Of Contents .....	1
grep example .....	2
sed example .....	2

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

## Linux / UNIX View Only Configuration File Directives ( uncommented lines of a config file )

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

**Q.** Most Linux / UNIX configuration files are documented using comments, but some time I just need to see line of configuration text in a file. How can I view just the uncommented configuration file directives from squid.conf or httpd.conf file?

**A.** To view just the uncommented lines of text in a config file use grep, sed , awk, perl or any other text processing utility provided by UNIX / BSD / Linux systems.



[1]

## grep example

GNU grep example:

```
$ grep -v "^#" /path/to/config/file
$ grep -v "^#" /etc/apache2/apache2.conf
```

## sed example

GNU sed example:

```
$ sed '/ *#/d; /^ *$/d' /path/to/file
$ sed '/ *#/d; /^ *$/d' /etc/apache2/apache2.conf
```

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/shell-display-uncommented-lines-only/>

URLs in this post:

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