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How do I use shell aliases under Linux?

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Q. What is a shell alias and how do I use them under Linux?

A. An alias is nothing but a short form of a Linux or UNIX command. You use aliases to save the time. To create an alias use the alias command.

Task: Display current aliases

Type alias command with no arguments or with the -p option prints the list
of aliases in the form alias NAME=VALUE on screen:

$ alias

Output:

```
alias cp='cp -i'
alias l.='ls -d .* --color=tty'
alias ll='ls -l --color=tty'
alias ls='ls --color=tty'
alias mv='mv -i'
alias rm='rm -i'
alias which='alias | /usr/bin/which --tty-only --read-alias --show-dot --show-tilde'
```

Task : Create an alias

To create an alias use the alias command as follows:

$ alias c=â€™clearâ€™

Now, type c and hit enter key to run clear the screen aka run screen command.

Task : Remove or delete an alias

To remove or delete an alias use

$ unalias c

Verify that an alias deleted:

$ alias

See also:

- How Linux or UNIX Understand which program to run - PART I [1]

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[1] How Linux or UNIX Understand which program to run - PART I:
http://www.cyberciti.biz/nixcraft/vivek/blogger/2006/02/how-linux-or-unix-understand-which.php