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Howto delete empty lines using sed command under Linux / UNIX

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[1]

Q. I need to delete all empty lines but could not figure out sed command for the same?
How do I delete all empty lines with sed?

A. sed is a stream editor and perfect for these kind of work.

You need to use d command under sed which is act as the delete function.

Sed Delete Empty Line Syntax

```
sed '/^$/d' <input-file>  
echo LINE | sed '/^$/d'  
echo $VAR | sed '/^$/d'
```

So to delete all empty lines from a file called /tmp/data.txt, enter:

```
$ sed '/^$/d' /tmp/data.txt
```

To store output to another file use redirection operator:

```
$ sed '/^$/d' /tmp/data.txt > /tmp/output.txt
```

Deleting a line that matches a pattern

You can also match a word or a pattern to delete. For example

```
$ cat data.txt
```

Output:

```
This is a test  
Linux rulez  
Windows sucks  
Redhat is good server disro
```

To delete all lines that contain a 'Windows' word, enter:

```
$ sed '/Windows/d' /tmp/data.txt > /tmp/output.data.txt
```

GNU Sed support -i option to edit files in place:

```
$ sed -i '/Windows/d' /tmp/data.txt
```

See more sed examples:

=> [Delete text or paragraph between two sections using sed](#) ^[2]

Updated for accuracy.

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[2] Delete text or paragraph between two sections using sed: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/sed-howto-remove-lines-paragraphs/>

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