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The * Wildcard

Description

- The * wildcard matches any number of characters.

Examples

- List all of the directories inside a given directory without listing their content:
 - `ls -ld wildcard_extra_practice/*/`
- Move all the .sh (shell scripts) files:
 - `mv wildcard_extra_practice/*.sh wildcard_extra_practice/scripts/`
- Creates directory, list, and move all the images files in the wildcard_extra_practice directory:
 - `mkdir wildcard_extra_practice/images/`
 - `ls wildcard_extra_practice/img-*.*`
 - `mv -v wildcard_extra_practice/img-*.*/images/`

The ? Wildcard

Description

- The ? wildcard matches precisely on character and proves very useful when working with hidden files.

Examples

- List all the files that contain a 4 letter file extension:
 - `ls -lX wildcard_extra_practice/*.????`
- List all the files that contain a 4 letter file extension and start with letter Z:
 - `ls -lX wildcard_extra_practice/z*.????`
- List all the files Microsoft Office 365 files:
 - `ls -lX Wildcard_extra_practice/*.???x`

The [] Wildcard

Description

- Brackets wildcard match a single character in a range and uses an exclamation mark to reverse the match.

Examples

- To match all files that have a vowel after letter f:
 - `ls f[aeiou]*`
- To match all files that do not have vowel after letter f:
 - `ls f[!aeiou]*`
- To match all files that have a range of letters after f:

- `ls f[a-z]*`
- To match all files whose name has at least one number:
 - `ls *[0-9]*`

Brace Expansion

Description

- Brace expansion is not a wildcard but another feature of bash that allows you to generate arbitrary strings to use with commands.

Examples

- To create a whole directory structure in a single command:
 - `mkdir -p music/{jazz,rock}/{mp3files,videos,oggfiles}/new{1..3}`
- To create a N number of files use:
 - `touch website{1..5}.html`
 - `touch file{A..Z}.txt`
 - `touch file{001..10}.py`
 - `touch file{{a..z},{0..10}}.js`
- Remove multiple files in a single directory:
 - `rm -r {dir1,dir2,dir3,file.txt,file.py}`