coursera

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tail

tail prints the last few lines of each named file and displays it on standard output. By default, it displays the last 10 lines. You can give a different number of lines as an option. **tail** is especially useful when you are troubleshooting any issue using log files, as you probably want to see the most recent lines of output.

For example, to display the last 15 lines of **somefile.log**, use the following command:

```
1    $ tail -n 15 somefile.log
```

You can also just say **tail -15 somefile.log**.

To continually monitor new output in a growing log file:

```
1    $ tail -f somefile.log
```

This command will continuously display any new lines of output in **somefile.log** as soon as they appear. Thus, it enables you to monitor any current activity that is being reported and recorded.

```
student@ubuntu: ~
student@ubuntu:~$ tail -15 /etc/default/grub
#GRUB_TERMINAL=console

# The resolution used on graphical terminal
# note that you can use only modes which your graphic card supports via VBE
# you can see them in real GRUB with the command `vbeinfo'
#GRUB_GFXMODE=640x480

# Uncomment if you don't want GRUB to pass "root=UUID=xxx" parameter to Linux
#GRUB_DISABLE_LINUX_UUID=true

# Uncomment to disable generation of recovery mode menu entries
#GRUB_DISABLE_RECOVERY="true"

# Uncomment to get a beep at grub start
#GRUB_INIT_TUNE="480 440 1"
student@ubuntu:~$
student@ubuntu:~$
```