

Bash scripting cheatsheet



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Introduction

Example

This is a quick reference to getting started with Bash scripting.

[Learn bash in y minutes](#) (learnxinyminutes.com)

[Bash Guide](#) (mywiki.woledge.org)

[Bash Hackers Wiki](#) (wiki.bash-hackers.org)

```
#!/usr/  
  
name="John"  
echo "Hi $name"
```

Variable

String quotes

```
name="John"  
echo "Hi $name" #=> Hi John  
echo 'Hi $name' #=> Hi $name
```

```
name="John"  
echo $name  
echo "$name"  
echo '$name'
```

Shell execution

```
echo "I'm in $(pwd)"  
echo "I'm in `pwd`" # obsolescent  
# Same
```

```
wildcard  
options  
help
```

Conditionals

See [Command substitution](#)

```
git commit  
git commit
```

Functions

```
get_name() {  
  echo "John"  
}
```

Conditionals

```
if [[ -n $name ]]
```

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| <pre>set -euo pipefail IFS=\$'\n\t'</pre> <p>See: Unofficial bash strict mode</p> | echo {A |
| | {A,B} |
| | {A,B}.j |
| | {1..5} |
| | {{1..3}} |
| | See: Bra |

Parameter expansions

| Basics | Substitu |
|---|----------|
| <pre>name="John" echo "\${name}" echo "\${name/J/j}" #=> "john" (substitution) echo "\${name:0:2}" #=> "Jo" (slicing) echo "\${name:2}" #=> "Jo" (slicing) echo "\${name::-1}" #=> "Joh" (slicing) echo "\${name:(-1)}" #=> "n" (slicing from right) echo "\${name:(-2):1}" #=> "h" (slicing from right) echo "\${food:-Cake}" #=> \$food or "Cake"</pre> | \${foo%s |
| | \${foo#p |
| | \${foo%% |
| | \${foo/% |
| | \${foo## |
| | \${foo/# |
| <pre>length=2 echo "\${name:0:length}" #=> "Jo"</pre> <p>See: Parameter expansion</p> | \${foo/f |
| | \${foo// |
| | \${foo/% |
| <pre>str="/path/to/foo.cpp"</pre> | |

| | | |
|--|--|-----|
| <code>\${foo:-val}</code> | <code>\$foo</code> , or <code>val</code> if unset (or null) | 'HE |
| <code>\${foo:=val}</code> | Set <code>\$foo</code> to <code>val</code> if unset (or null) | "\$ |
| <code>\${foo:+val}</code> | <code>val</code> if <code>\$foo</code> is set (and not null) | 'he |
| <code>\${foo:?message}</code> | Show error message and exit if <code>\$foo</code> is unset (or null) | "\$ |
| Omitting the <code>:</code> removes the (non)nullity checks, e.g. <code>\${foo-val}</code> expands to <code>val</code> if unset otherwise <code>\$foo</code> . | | |
| <pre>str="Hello world" echo "\${str:6:5}" # "world" echo "\${str: -5:5}" # "world"</pre> | | |
| <pre>src="/path/to/foo.cpp" base=\${src##*/} #=> "foo.cpp" (basepath) dir=\${src%\$base} #=> "/path/to/" (dirpath)</pre> | | |

Loops

Basic for loop

C-like for

```
for i in {1..5}; do
    echo "Welcome $i"
done
```

```
while t
...
done
```

With step size

```
for i in {5..50..5}; do
    echo "Welcome $i"
done
```

Functions

Defining functions

```
myfunc() {
    echo "hello $1"
}
```

```
# Same as above (alternate syntax)
function myfunc() {
    echo "hello $1"
}
```

```
myfunc "John"
```

Returning

```
myfunc(
    loc
    ech
}
```

```
result=
```

Raising

```
myfunc(
    retur
}
```

Arguments

\$#

Number of arguments

\$*

All positional arguments (as a single word)

| | | |
|--|--|-----|
| <code>\$@</code> | All positional arguments (as separate strings) | /fu |
| <code>\$1</code> | First argument | io |
| <code>\$_</code> | Last argument of the previous command | io |
| <p>Note: <code>\$@</code> and <code>\$*</code> must be quoted in order to perform as described. Otherwise, they do exactly the same thing (arguments as separate strings).</p> <p>See Special parameters.</p> | | |

Conditionals

Conditions

File con

| | | |
|--|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Note that <code>[[</code> is actually a command/program that returns either 0 (true) or 1 (false). Any program obeys the same logic (like all base utils, such as <code>grep(1)</code> or <code>ping(1)</code>) can be used as condition, see examples. | | <code>[[-e F</code> |
| | | <code>[[-r F</code> |
| <code>[[-z STRING]]</code> | Empty string | <code>[[-h F</code> |
| <code>[[-n STRING]]</code> | Not empty string | <code>[[-d F</code> |
| <code>[[STRING == STRING]]</code> | | <code>[[-w F</code> |
| <code>[[STRING != STRING]]</code> | Not equal | <code>[[-s F</code> |
| <code>[[NUM -eq NUM]]</code> | | <code>[[-f F</code> |
| <code>[[NUM -ne NUM]]</code> | Not equal | <code>[[-x F</code> |
| <code>[[NUM -lt NUM]]</code> | Less than | <code>[[FILE</code> |
| <code>[[NUM -le NUM]]</code> | Less than or equal | <code>[[FILE</code> |
| <code>[[NUM -gt NUM]]</code> | Greater than | <code>[[FILE</code> |
| <code>[[NUM -ge NUM]]</code> | Greater than or equal | |
| <code>[[STRING =~ STRING]]</code> | Regex match | |
| <code>((NUM < NUM))</code> | Numeric condition | # Strin |
| More conditions | | <code>if [[-</code> |
| <code>[[-o noclobber]]</code> | IF OPTIONNAME is enabled | <code>echo</code> |
| | | <code>elif [[</code> |
| | | <code>echo</code> |
| | | <code>else</code> |

Example

```
[[ ! EXPR ]]
```

```
[[ X && Y ]]
```

```
[[ X || Y ]]
```

```
echo
fi
```

```
# Combi
if [[ X
...
fi
```

```
# Equal
if [[ "
```

```
# Regex
if [[ "
```

```
if (( $
echo
fi
```

```
if [[ -
echo
fi
```

≠ Arrays

Defining arrays

```
Fruits=('Apple' 'Banana' 'Orange')
```

```
Fruits[0]="Apple"
Fruits[1]="Banana"
Fruits[2]="Orange"
```

Working

```
echo "$
echo "$
echo "$
echo "$
echo "$
echo "$
echo "$
echo "$
```

Operations

```
Fruits="${Fruits[@]}" "Watermelon" # Push
Fruits+=( 'Watermelon' )           # Also Push
Fruits=( "${Fruits[@]/Ap*/}" )      # Remove by regex match
unset Fruits[2]                     # Remove one item
Fruits=( "${Fruits[@]}" )           # Duplicate
Fruits=( "${Fruits[@]}" "${Veggies[@]}" ) # Concatenate
```

Iteration

```
for i in
do
echo
done
```

```
lines=(`cat "logfile"`)           # Read from file
```

Dictionaries

Defining

```
declare -A sounds
```

```
sounds[dog]="bark"  
sounds[cow]="moo"  
sounds[bird]="tweet"  
sounds[wolf]="howl"
```

Declares sound as a Dictionary object (aka associative array).

Working

```
echo "$  
echo "$  
echo "$  
echo "$  
unset s
```

Iteration

Iterate ov

```
for val  
  echo  
done
```

Iterate ov

```
for key  
  echo  
done
```

Options

Options

```
set -o noclobber  # Avoid overlay files (echo "hi" > foo)  
set -o errexit    # Used to exit upon error, avoiding cascading errors  
set -o pipefail   # Unveils hidden failures  
set -o nounset    # Exposes unset variables
```

Glob op

```
shopt -  
shopt -  
shopt -  
shopt -  
shopt -
```

Set GLOB

History

Commands

Expansion

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---|------------------|
| <code>history</code> | Show history | <code>!\$</code> |
| <code>shopt -s histverify</code> | Don't execute expanded result immediately | <code>!*</code> |

Operations

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| <code>!!</code> | Execute last command again | <code>!n</code> |
| <code>!!:s/<FROM>/<TO>/</code> | Replace first occurrence of <FROM> to <TO> in most recent command | <code>!^</code> |
| <code>!!:gs/<FROM>/<TO>/</code> | Replace all occurrences of <FROM> to <TO> in most recent command | <code>!\$</code> |
| <code>!\$:t</code> | Expand only basename from last parameter of most recent command | <code>!!:n-m</code> |
| <code>!\$:h</code> | Expand only directory from last parameter of most recent command | <code>!!:n-\$</code> |
| <code>!!</code> and <code>!\$</code> can be replaced with any valid expansion. | | <code>!! can be replaced with any valid expansion.</code> |

Miscellaneous

Numeric calculations

Subshell

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <code>\$((a + 200))</code> | # Add 200 to \$a | <code>(cd some_dir; pwd)</code> |
| <code>\$((\$RANDOM%200))</code> | # Random number 0..199 | <code>pwd # s</code> |
| <code>declare -i count</code> | # Declare as type integer | Redirect |


```
if grep -q 'foo' ~/.bash_history; then
    echo "You appear to have typed 'foo' in the past"
fi
```

```
pwd # /home/user/foo
```

```
read -n 1 ans    # Just one character
```

```
[:lower:]
```

All lower case letters

```
[:digit:]
```

All digits

```
[:space:]
```

All whitespace

```
[:alpha:]
```

All letters

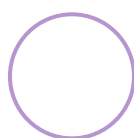
```
[:alnum:]
```

All letters and digits

Example

```
echo "Welcome To Devhints" | tr '[:lower:]' '[:upper:]'
WELCOME TO DEVHINTS
```


Also see

[Bash-hackers wiki](#) (bash-hackers.org)[Shell vars](#) (bash-hackers.org)[Learn bash in y minutes](#) (learnxinyminutes.com)[Bash Guide](#) (mywiki.woledge.org)[ShellCheck](#) (shellcheck.net)

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