

Few Examples

Display system users & their default login shell
`sed -e 's/::.*:/:/' /etc/passwd`

Add C-style comments around some code snippet (GNU sed syntax)
`sed -i -e '1i/*' -e '$a*/' code.snippet`

Add C-style comments around some code snippet (POSIX syntax)
`sed -e '1i\
/*' -e '$a\
*/' code.snippet > tmp.file
mv -f tmp.file code.snippet`

List last logged in users except for root
`last | sed '/^root /d'`

sed
stream editor for filtering
and transforming text

Not in POSIX

edit
file(s)
in-place

-i

write to
stdout

optional if only one command

introduce a new sed
expression

-e

lines matching
the pattern

/pattern/

last
list

\$

line
number

n

all
lines

regular expressions

s/pat/sub/

substitute

append
after

a...

insert
before

i...

delete

d

POSIX requires ``a`` and ``i`` commands to be followed
by `\` and the new text to be on its own line.
As an extension, GNU sed allows the new text
to be right after the ``a`` or ``i`` commands.

files...

read
from
stdout

THE SED CHEATSHEET

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