



echo command in Linux with Examples

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echo command in linux is used to display line of text/string that are passed as an argument . This is a built in command that is mostly used in shell scripts and batch files to output status text to the screen or a file.

Syntax :

```
echo [option] [string]
```

Displaying a text/string : Syntax :

```
echo [string]
```

Example :

```
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~$ echo "Geeks for Geeks"  
Geeks for Geeks  
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~$
```

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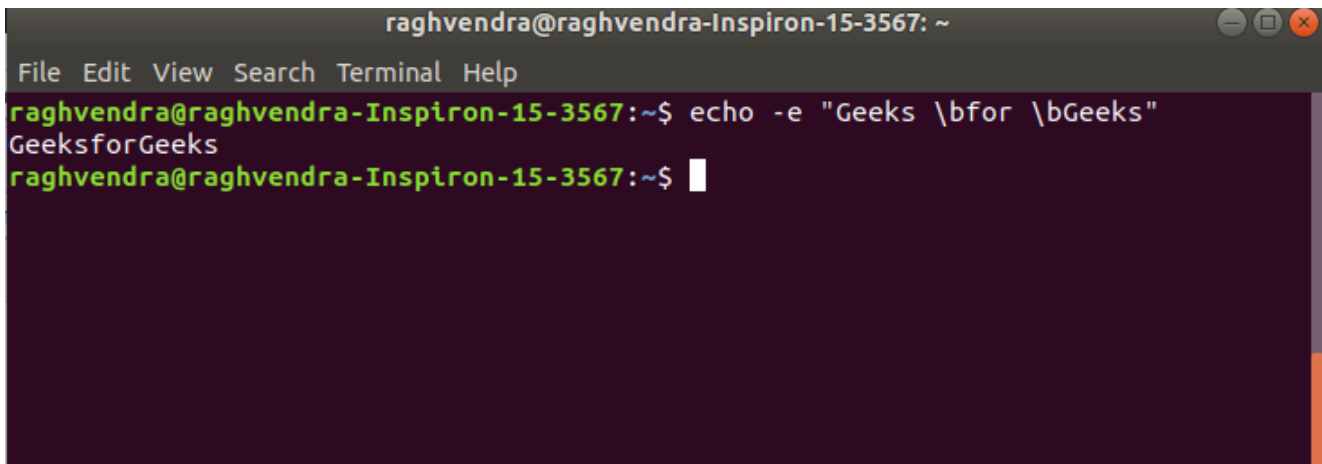
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Options of echo command NOTE :- **-e** here enables the interpretation of backslash escapes

1. \b : it removes all the spaces in between the text **Example :**

```
echo -e "Geeks \bfor \bGeeks"
```

A terminal window titled 'raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567: ~' with a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Search, Terminal, Help). The prompt is 'raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~\$'. The command entered is 'echo -e "Geeks \bfor \bGeeks"'. The output is 'GeeksforGeeks'. The prompt is now 'raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~\$' with a cursor.

2. \c : suppress trailing new line with backspace interpreter '-e' to continue without emitting new line. **Example :**

```
echo -e "Geeks \cfor Geeks"
```

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```
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~$ echo -e "Geeks \cfor Geeks"  
Geeks raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~$
```

In above example, text after \c is not printed and omitted trailing new line.

3. \n : this option creates new line from where it is used. **Example :**

```
echo -e "Geeks \nfor \nGeeks"
```

```
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~$ echo -e "Geeks \nfor \nGeeks"  
Geeks  
for  
Geeks  
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~$
```

4. \t : this option is used to create horizontal tab spaces. **Example :**

```
echo -e "Geeks \tfor \tGeeks"
```

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```
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~$ echo -e "Geeks \tfor \tGeeks"  
Geeks   for     Geeks  
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~$
```

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5. \r : carriage return with backspace interpreter '-e' to have specified carriage return in output. **Example :**

```
echo -e "Geeks \rfor Geeks"
```

```
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~$ echo -e "Geeks \rfor Geeks"  
for Geeks  
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~$
```

In the above example, text before \r is not printed.

6. \v : this option is used to create vertical tab spaces. **Example :**

```
echo -e "Geeks \vfor \vGeeks"
```

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```
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~$ echo -e "Geeks \vfor \vGeeks"  
Geeks  
    for  
        Geeks  
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~$
```

7. **\a** : alert return with backspace interpreter '-e' to have sound alert. **Example :**

echo -e "\aGeeks for Geeks

```
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~$ echo -e "\aGeeks for Geeks"  
Geeks for Geeks  
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~$
```

This command when executed, it will produce an alert sound or Bell .

8. **echo *** : this command will print all files/folders, similar to ls command . **Example :**

echo *

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```
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~$ echo *  
Desktop Documents Downloads git_hand git_repos java2python-0.5.1 Music My songs  
Pictures Public snap Templates Videos  
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~$ ls  
Desktop      git_hand      Music         Public        Videos  
Documents    git_repos     'My songs'    snap  
Downloads    java2python-0.5.1 Pictures      Templates
```

9. -n : this option is used to omit echoing trailing newline . **Example :**

```
echo -n "Geeks for Geeks"
```

```
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
raghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~$ echo -n "Geeks for Geeks"  
Geeks for Geeksraghvendra@raghvendra-Inspiron-15-3567:~$
```

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