

You can execute any of these programs from the command line, as well. In this case, the changes are in effect only until you close that window or log out. If your shell prompt has a `$` character in it, you'll probably use the syntax shown earlier in the *.profile*; if your shell prompt has a `%` or `>` instead, the syntax in the *.login* is probably right.

For example, to change the default options for **less** so it will clear the terminal screen before it shows each new page of text, you'll want to add the `-c` option to the LESS environment variable. The command you'd type at a shell prompt would look something like this:

```
$ LESS='eMqC'  
$ export LESS
```

or like this:

```
% setenv LESS 'eMqC'
```

(If you don't want some of the **less** options we've shown, you could leave those letters out.) Unix has many other configuration commands to learn about; the sources listed in the section "Documentation" of Chapter 8 can help.

Just as you can execute the setup commands from the command line, the converse is true: any command that you can execute from the command line can be executed automatically when you log in by placing it in your setup file. (Running interactive commands such as **pine** from your setup file isn't a good idea, though.)