

LOOPS IN SHELL SCRIPTS

Bash supports:

- while loop
- for loop

a) while loop

The while loop will repeat a chunk of code as long as the given condition is true.

Syntax:

```
while [ condition ]  
do  
    command1  
    command2  
    command3  
    ...  
    ....  
done
```

Example 1:

```
i = 1  
while [ $i -le 10 ]  
do  
    echo "value of i is $i"  
    i = `expr $i + 1`  
done
```

b) for loop

Syntax 1 :

```
for { variable name } in { list }  
do  
    execute one for each item in the list until the list is not finished  
    (And repeat all statement between do and done)  
done
```

Example 1:

```

for i in 1 2 3 4 5
do
    echo "Welcome $i times"
done

```

Example 2:

```

count = 0
for i in 2 4 6
do
    echo " i is $i "
    count = `expr $count + 1`
done
echo " the loop was executed $count times"

```

Discussion :

This for loop will be executed for three times, once with i=2, once with i=4 and once with i=6.

Syntax # 2:

```

for (( expr1; expr2; expr3 ))
do
    ....
    ...
    repeat all statements between do and
    done until expr2 is TRUE
done

```

Example 1:

```

for (( i = 0 ; i <= 4; i++ ))
do
    echo "Welcome $i times"
done

```

Output :

```

Welcome 0 times
Welcome 1 times
Welcome 2 times
Welcome 3 times
Welcome 4 times

```

Nesting of for loop

Example:

```
for (( i = 1; i <= 5; i++ ))      ### Outer for loop ###
do
    for (( j = 1 ; j <= 5; j++ ))  ### Inner for loop ###
    do
        echo -n "$i "
    done
    echo ""                        ##### print the new line ###
done
```

Output:

```
1 1 1 1 1
2 2 2 2 2
3 3 3 3 3
4 4 4 4 4
5 5 5 5 5
```