**Pipes**

* A pipe is used by the shell to connect the stdout of one command directly to the stdin of another command.
* The symbol for a pipe is the vertical bar ( | ). The command syntax is:

**command1 [arguments] | command2 [arguments]**

* Pipes accomplish with one command what otherwise would take intermediate files and multiple commands. For example, operation 1 and operation 2 are equivalent:

***Operation 1***

**who > temp**

**sort temp**

***Operation 2***

**who | sort**

* Pipes do not affect the contents of the input files.
* Two very common uses of a pipe are with the "more" and "grep" utilities. Some examples:

**ls -al | more**

**who | more**

**ps ug | grep myuserid**

**who | grep kelly**