

A grep cheatsheet

Basic usage returns lines containing the string in quotation marks in the specified file:

```
grep "the forgotten origins" file.txt
```

Flags and redirection

| | | |
|--------------------------|----|---|
| | | |
| Case insensitive | -i | grep -i "king" file.txt |
| Regular expression | -E | grep -E "^From" file.txt |
| Count lines | -c | grep -c "chickens" file.txt |
| Everything apart from | -v | grep -v "kitchen sink" file.txt |
| Only print the match(es) | -o | grep -o "the lonely" file.txt |
| Search in subfolders | -r | grep -r "depth" *.txt |
| Output results to a file | > | grep "Mozart" file.txt > Mozart.txt |
| Pipe to a new command | | Grep "Mozart" file.txt grep "Salieri" |

Flags can be combined, eg to count lines in a file that don't contain the string "green eggs and ham":

```
grep -cv "green eggs and ham" zeuss.txt
```

The -o flag generally makes sense only with a regular expression, eg to list all numbers that occur at the beginning of a line:

```
grep -Eo "[0-9]+" numberwang.txt
```

A few flags don't combine well at all, such as -oc

Wildcards

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| | |
| grep every .txt file in the directory | grep "string" *.txt |
| grep every .text file beginning with t in the directory | grep "string" t*.txt |
| grep every file in the directory | grep "string" * |

