



# Bash scripting cheatsheet

## Introduction

This is a quick reference to getting started with Bash scripting.

### Learn bash in y minutes

(learnxinyminutes.com)

### Bash Guide

(mywiki.woledge.org)

### Bash Hackers Wiki

(wiki.bash-hackers.org)

## Example

```
#!/usr/bin/env bash
```

```
name="John"
```

```
echo "Hello $name!"
```

## String quotes



```
name="John"
```

```
echo "Hi $name" #=> Hi John
```

```
echo 'Hi $name' #=> Hi $name
```

## Conditional execution

```
git commit && git push  
git commit || echo "Commit failed"
```

## Shell execution

## Conditionals

```
if [[ -z "$string" ]]; then  
    echo "String is empty"  
elif [[ -n "$string" ]]; then  
    echo "String is not empty"  
fi
```

See: [Conditionals](#)

See [Command substitution](#)

## Strict mode

```
set -euo pipefail
```

```
IFS=$'\n\t'
```

See: [Unofficial bash strict mode](#)

## # Parameter expansions

Basics

```
name="John"
echo "${name}"
echo "${name/J/j}"      #=> "john" (substitution)
echo "${name:0:2}"      #=> "Jo" (slicing)
echo "${name::2}"       #=> "Jo" (slicing)
echo "${name::-1}"      #=> "Joh" (slicing)
echo "${name:(-1)}"     #=> "n" (slicing from right)
echo "${name:(-2):1}"   #=> "h" (slicing from right)
echo "${food:-Cake}"    #=> $food or "Cake"
```

```
length=2
echo "${name:0:length}" #=> "Jo"
```

See: [Parameter expansion](#)

```
str="/path/to/foo.cpp"
echo "${str%.cpp}"      # /path/to/foo
echo "${str%.cpp}.o"    # /path/to/foo.o
echo "${str%/*}"        # /path/to

echo "${str##*.*}"      # cpp (extension)
echo "${str##*/}"       # foo.cpp (basepath)

echo "${str#*/}"        # path/to/foo.cpp
echo "${str##*/}"       # foo.cpp

echo "${str/foo/bar}"   # /path/to/bar.cpp
```

```
str="Hello world"
echo "${str:6:5}"       # "world"
echo "${str: -5:5}"     # "world"
```

```
src="/path/to/foo.cpp"
base=${src##*/}         #=> "foo.cpp" (basepath)
dir=${src%$base}        #=> "/path/to/" (dirpath)
```

Substitution

<code>\${foo%suffix}</code>
<code>\${foo#prefix}</code>
<code>\${foo%%suffix}</code>
<code>\${foo/%suffix}</code>
<code>\${foo##prefix}</code>
<code>\${foo/#prefix}</code>
<code>\${foo/from/to}</code>
<code>\${foo//from/to}</code>
<code>\${foo/%from/to}</code>
<code>\${foo/#from/to}</code>

Manipulation

```
str="HELLO WORLD!"
echo "${str,}"          #=> "hello WORLD!" (lowercase 1st)
echo "${str,,}"         #=> "hello world!" (all lowercase)

str="hello world!"
echo "${str^}"          #=> "Hello world!" (uppercase 1st)
echo "${str^^}"         #=> "HELLO WORLD!" (all uppercase)
```

Loops

Basic for loop

```
for i in /etc/rc.*; do
    echo "$i"
done
```

C-like for loop

```
for ((i = 0 ; i < 100 ; i++)); do
    echo "$i"
done
```

Reading lines

Forever

```
while read -r line; do
    echo "$line"
done <file.txt
```

```
while true; do
    ...
done
```

# # Functions

## Defining functions

```
myfunc() {
    echo "hello $1"
}
```

```
# Same as above (alternate syntax)
function myfunc() {
    echo "hello $1"
}
```

```
myfunc "John"
```

## Returning values

```
myfunc() {
    local myresult='some value'
    echo "$myresult"
}
```

```
result=$(myfunc)
```

## Arguments

\$#
\$*
\$@
\$1
\$_
<b>Note:</b> \$@ and \$* must be quoted in order to perform as described (as separate strings).  See <a href="#">Special parameters</a> .

# # Conditionals

## Conditions

Note that <code>[]</code> is actually a command/program that returns either 0 or 1 (like all base utils, such as <code>grep(1)</code> or <code>ping(1)</code> ) can be used as follows:
<code>[] -z STRING []</code>
<code>[] -n STRING []</code>

## File conditions

<code>[] -e FILE []</code>
<code>[] -r FILE []</code>
<code>[] -h FILE []</code>
<code>[] -d FILE []</code>

[[ STRING == STRING ]]	[[ -w FILE ]]
[[ STRING != STRING ]]	[[ -s FILE ]]
[[ NUM -eq NUM ]]	[[ -f FILE ]]
[[ NUM -ne NUM ]]	[[ -x FILE ]]
[[ NUM -lt NUM ]]	[[ FILE1 -nt FILE2 ]]
[[ NUM -le NUM ]]	[[ FILE1 -ot FILE2 ]]
[[ NUM -gt NUM ]]	[[ FILE1 -ef FILE2 ]]
[[ NUM -ge NUM ]]	Greater than or equal
[[ STRING =~ STRING ]]	Regexp
(( NUM < NUM ))	Numeric conditions
More conditions	
[[ -o noclobber ]]	If OPTIONNAME is enabled
[[ ! EXPR ]]	Not
[[ X && Y ]]	And
[[ X    Y ]]	Or

## # Arrays

### Defining arrays

```
Fruits=('Apple' 'Banana' 'Orange')

Fruits[0]="Apple"
Fruits[1]="Banana"
Fruits[2]="Orange"
```

### Working with arrays

```
echo "${Fruits[0]}"
echo "${Fruits[-1]}"
echo "${Fruits[@]}"
echo "${#Fruits[@]}"
echo "${#Fruits}"
echo "${#Fruits[3]}"
echo "${Fruits[@]:3:2}"
echo "${!Fruits[@]}"
```

### Operations

```
Fruits=("${Fruits[@]}" "Watermelon")      # Push
Fruits+=('Watermelon')                   # Also Push
Fruits=( "${Fruits[@]/Ap*/}" )            # Remove by regex match
unset Fruits[2]                           # Remove one item
Fruits=("${Fruits[@]}")                   # Duplicate
```

### Iteration

```
for i in "${arrayName[@]}"
do
    echo "$i"
done
```

```
Fruits=("${Fruits[@]}" "${Veggies[@]}") # Concatenate
lines=(`cat "logfile"`)                # Read from file
```

done

## # Dictionaries

### Defining

```
declare -A sounds
```

```
sounds[dog]="bark"
sounds[cow]="moo"
sounds[bird]="tweet"
sounds[wolf]="howl"
```

Declares sound as a Dictionary object (aka associative array).

### Working with dictionaries

```
echo "${sounds[dog]}" # Dog's sound
echo "${sounds[@]}"   # All values
echo "${!sounds[@]}"  # All keys
echo "${#sounds[@]}"  # Number of elements
unset sounds[dog]     # Delete dog
```

## # Options

### Options

```
set -o noclobber # Avoid overlay files (echo "hi" > foo)
set -o errexit   # Used to exit upon error, avoiding cascading errors
set -o pipefail  # Unveils hidden failures
set -o nounset   # Exposes unset variables
```

### Glob options

```
shopt -s nullglob # M
shopt -s failglob # M
shopt -s nocaseglob # C
shopt -s dotglob   # W
shopt -s globstar  # A
```

Set GLOBIGNORE as a colon-separated list of glob patterns that should be ignored by the shell.

## # History

### Commands

```
history
```

```
shopt -s histverify
```

Don't execute ex

### Expansions

!\$

!\*

! -n

!n

### Operations

!!	Execute last command again	
!!:s/<FROM>/<TO>/	Replace first occurrence of <FROM> to <TO> in most recent command	Slices
!!:gs/<FROM>/<TO>/	Replace all occurrences of <FROM> to <TO>	!!:n
!\$:t	Expand only basename from last parameter	!^
!\$:h	Expand only directory from last parameter	!\$
!! and !\$ can be replaced with any valid expansion.		!!:n-m
		!!:n-\$
		!! can be replaced with any v

# # Miscellaneous

## Numeric calculations

<code>\$((a + 200))</code>	<code># Add 200 to \$a</code>
<code>\$((\$RANDOM%200))</code>	<code># Random number 0..199</code>
<code>declare -i count</code>	<code># Declare as type integer</code>
<code>count+=1</code>	<code># Increment</code>

## Inspecting commands

<code>command -V cd</code>
<code>#=&gt; "cd is a function/alias/whatever"</code>

## Trap errors

<code>trap 'echo Error at about \$LINENO' ERR</code>
or
<pre>traperr() {   echo "ERROR: \${BASH_SOURCE[1]} at about \${BASH_LINENO[0]}" }</pre>

## Subshells

<code>(cd somedir; echo "I'm r</code>
<code>pwd # still in first dir</code>

## Redirection

<code>python hello.py &gt; output</code>
<code>python hello.py &gt;&gt; outpu</code>
<code>python hello.py 2&gt; error</code>
<code>python hello.py 2&gt;&amp;1</code>
<code>python hello.py 2&gt;/dev/r</code>
<code>it.</code>
<code>/r</code>
<code>&gt; m</code>
<code>python hello.py &lt; foo.tx</code>
<code>diff &lt;(ls -r) &lt;(ls)</code>

## Case/switch

<code>case "\$1" in</code>
<code>start   up)</code>
<code>vagrant up</code>
<code>;;</code>
<code>*)</code>

```
set -o errtrace
trap traperr ERR
```

## Source relative

```
source "${0%/*}/../share/foo.sh"
```

printf

```
echo "Usage: $0 {sta
;;
esac
```

## Transform strings

```
printf "Hello %s, I'm %s
#=> "Hello Sven, I'm Olc
```

-c	Operations apply to characters not in the given set
-d	Delete characters
-s	Replaces repeated characters with single occurrence
-t	Truncates
[:upper:]	All upper case letters
[:lower:]	All lower case letters
[:digit:]	All digits
[:space:]	
[:alpha:]	All letters
[:alnum:]	All letters and digits

## Directory of script

```
dir=${0%/*}
```

## Getting options

```
while [[ "$1" =~ ^- && !
-V | --version )
echo "$version"
exit
;;
-s | --string )
shift; string=$1
;;
```

Example

```
echo "Welcome To Devhints" | tr '[:lower:]' '[:upper:]'
WELCOME TO DEVHINTS
```

## Heredoc

```
cat <<END
hello world
END
```

## Reading input

```
echo -n "Proceed? [y/n]: "
read -r ans
echo "$ans"
```

The -r option disables a peculiar legacy behavior with backslashes.

```
read -n 1 ans    # Just one character
```

## Special variables

\$?

#!

\$\$

\$0

```
pwd # /home/user/foo
cd bar/
pwd # /home/user/foo/bar
cd -
pwd # /home/user/foo
```

Check for command's re

Grep check


```
if grep -q 'foo' ~/.bash_history; then
    echo "You appear to have typed 'foo' in the past"
fi
```

```
if ping -c 1 google.com;
    echo "It appears you h
fi
```

Also see

- [Bash-hackers wiki](#) (bash-hackers.org)
- [Shell vars](#) (bash-hackers.org)
- [Learn bash in y minutes](#) (learnxinyminutes.com)
- [Bash Guide](#) (mywiki.woledge.org)
- [ShellCheck](#) (shellcheck.net)



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