

Bash Shell Scripting

cut command

```
#!/bin/bash
```

Learn how to automate common tasks using bash shell scripting

Cut command:

- The 'cut' command is a powerful tool to extract parts of each line from a file.
- It is based on
 - Byte Position
 - Character Position
 - Fields based on delimiter (by default delimiter is the tab)
- Cut command syntax:
 - **cut [options] <positions(fields) /range of positions(fields)> <input_file>**
 - **cat file | cut [options] <positions(fields) /range of positions(fields)>**
 - Options: -b -c and -f
 - Ranges:
 - 2** only second byte/character/field
 - 2-** second byte/character/field to last
 - 7** first to seven
 - 3,5** third and fifth

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Cut command for Byte/Character Position:

- To cut out a section of a line by specifying a byte/character position use the `-b/-c` option.
- Syntax:
 - `cut -b <position's/range of position's> file`
 - `cut -c <position's/range of position's> file`
 - Position's: 3,5,10
 - Range of Position's: 3-7, 6-10
- Ex: mytext.txt
- `cut -b 2 mytext.txt`
- `cut -b 3,7 mytext.txt`
- `cut -b 5-9 mytext.txt`
- `cut -b 5- mytext.txt`
- `cut -b -7, 9 mytext.txt`
- Use `--complement` to complement the output

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Cut command for file Position:

- To cut out a section of a line by specifying a field position use the -f option.
- Assume fields are like columns, by default cut command will separates columns based on tab(delimiter).
- If we want to use different field separator use -d (delimiter).
- Syntax:
 - `cut -f <position's/range of position's> file`
 - `cut -f <position's/range of position'ss> [-d ':'] [--output-delimiter='**'] file`
 - -d is a delimiter like @ , : / etc....
 - Position's: 3,5,2
 - Range of Position's: 3-7, 6-10
- Ex: mytext.txt
- `cut -f 2 mytext.txt`
- `cut -f 3,7 mytext.txt`
- `cut -f 5-9 mytext.txt`
- `cut -f 5- mytext.txt`
- `cut -f -7, 9 --output-delimiter=" " mytext.txt`

Use -s option with -f to ignore the line that do not contain a delimiter

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Thank you