

Programming Constructs

The shell programming language has several constructs that give added flexibility to your program.

⇒ Comments lets you document the function of the program

⇒ The exit commands let the user terminate a program at a point other than the end of the program and use return codes

⇒ The looping constructs, for and while allow a program ~~and~~ to iterate through the commands in a loop.

⇒ The conditional command, if and case execute a group of command only if a ~~set~~ particular set of conditions are met.

⇒ The break command allows the user to exit from the program unconditionally from a loop.

if statement

```
if [expression]  
then
```

statement

```
fi
```

Example

```
a=10  
b=20
```

} initialising two variables

```
if [$a == $b]
```

```
then
```

~~echo~~ echo "a is equal to b"

```
fi
```

~~##~~ if a & b are not equal.

```
if [$a != $b]
```

```
then
```

echo "a is not equal to b"

```
fi
```

if else. statement

if [expression].
then

statement.

else

~~echo~~ statement

fi.

Example

a=10 { initialising two variables
b=20 }

if [\$a == \$b]

echo "a is equal to b"

else

echo "a is not equal to b"

fi.

⇒ Switch statement

Cars = "bmw"

Case "\$cars" in

"merc") echo "Head quarters, Germany;"

~~if~~ ~~then~~

"Maruti") echo "Head quarters, India;"

"bmw") echo "Head quarters, Kerala;"

esac

Output

Headquarter, Kerala.

⇒ while statement

```
i = 1
while (( $i <= 10 ))
do
  if (( $i == 5 ))
  then
    break
  fi
  echo $i
  (( ++i ))
done
```

⇒ break statement

```
i = 0
until (( $i == 10 ))
do
  if (( $i == 5 ))
  then
    break
  fi
  echo $i
  (( ++i ))
done
```