

Grep Cheatsheet

Overview

`grep` is a command-line utility used for searching text files for specific patterns.

Basic Usage

```
grep pattern file.txt
```

Searches for `pattern` in `file.txt` and prints all lines that match.

Flags

- `-i` : Ignore case when searching
- `-v` : Invert the match, printing all lines that do not match
- `-r` : Recursively search all files in a directory
- `-n` : Print the line number for each match
- `-w` : Match whole words only
- `-c` : Print only the count of matching lines

Regular Expressions

`grep` uses regular expressions to define search patterns. Some common regex syntax includes:

- `.` : Matches any single character
- `*` : Matches zero or more of the preceding character
- `+` : Matches one or more of the preceding character
- `?` : Matches zero or one of the preceding character
- `[]` : Matches any character within the brackets
- `^` : Matches the beginning of a line
- `$` : Matches the end of a line
- `|` : Matches either the expression before or after the pipe

Examples

```
grep -i "hello" file.txt      # Search for "hello" case-insensitively
grep -v "goodbye" file.txt   # Print all lines that do not contain "goodbye"
grep -rn "error" /var/log    # Recursively search all files in /var/log for
"error" and print line numbers
grep -w "the" file.txt       # Match whole words only
grep -E "foo|bar" file.txt   # Match either "foo" or "bar" using extended regex
syntax
```

Resources

- [Grep on Wikipedia](#)

- [Grep manual](#)