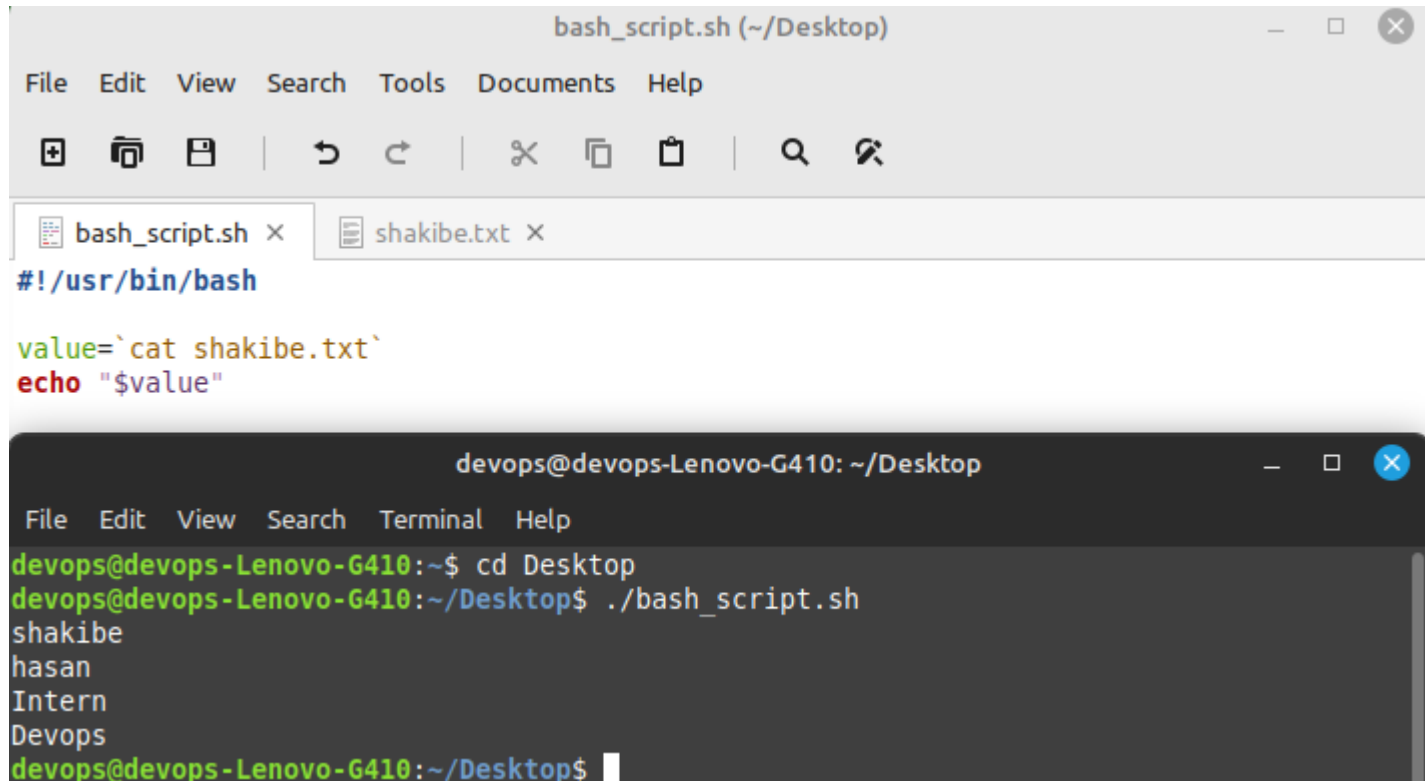


# Bash Read File

Last updated by | Shakibe Hasan | Jun 12, 2023 at 5:20 PM GMT+6

There are many ways that we can use to read a file in Bash Shell Scripting.

## Reading File Using 'cat fileName'



The first screenshot shows a text editor window titled 'bash\_script.sh (~/Desktop)'. It contains a Bash script with the following content:

```
#!/usr/bin/bash

value=`cat shakibe.txt`
echo "$value"
```

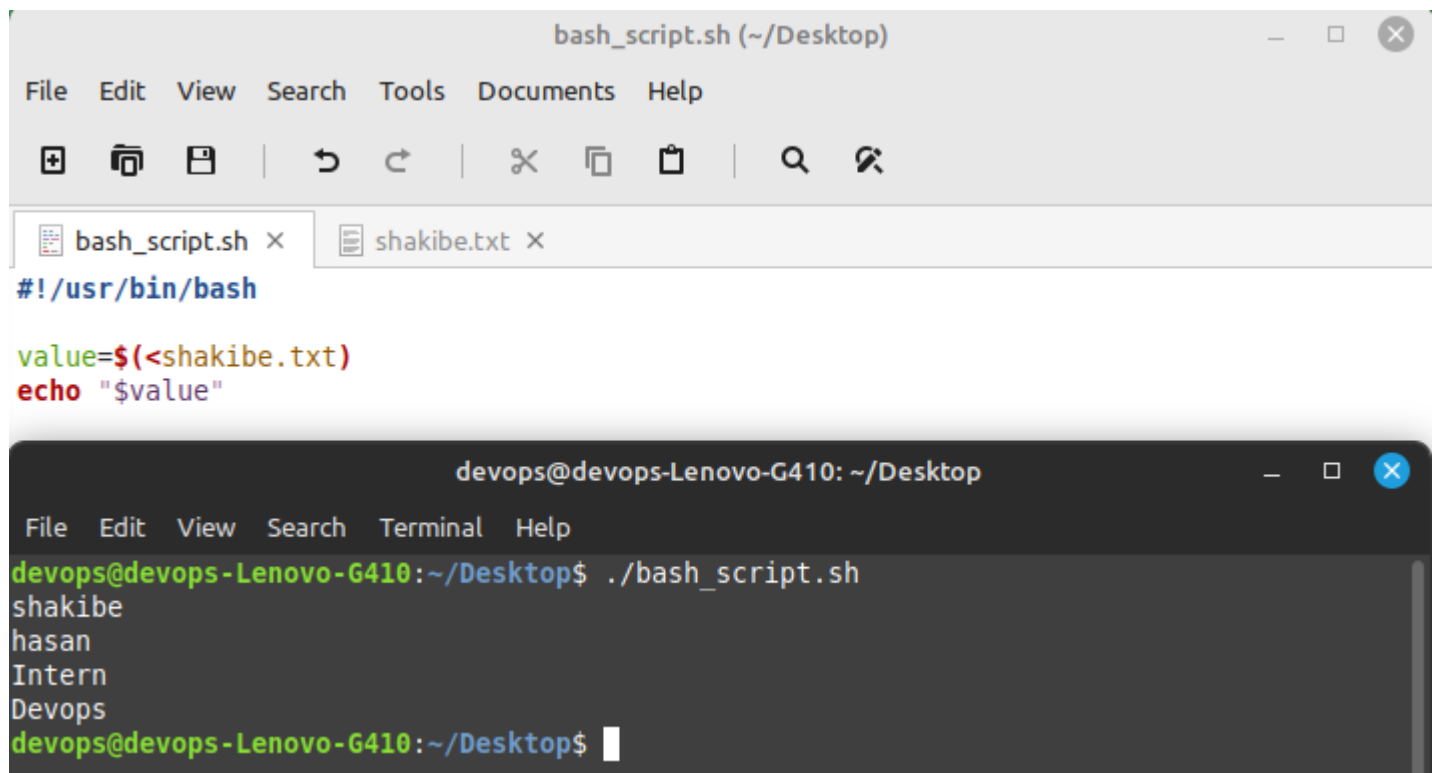
The second screenshot shows a terminal window titled 'devops@devops-Lenovo-G410: ~/Desktop'. It shows the execution of the script:

```
devops@devops-Lenovo-G410:~$ cd Desktop
devops@devops-Lenovo-G410:~/Desktop$ ./bash_script.sh
shakibe
hasan
Intern
Devops
devops@devops-Lenovo-G410:~/Desktop$
```

Syntax:

- **value=** cat file\_name.txt

## Reading File Using '\$(<fileName>)'



The image shows two windows. The top window is a text editor titled 'bash\_script.sh (~/Desktop)' with a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Search, Tools, Documents, Help) and a toolbar. It contains two tabs: 'bash\_script.sh' and 'shakibe.txt'. The script content is: `#!/usr/bin/bash`, `value=$(<shakibe.txt)`, and `echo "$value"`. The bottom window is a terminal titled 'devops@devops-Lenovo-G410: ~/Desktop' with a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Search, Terminal, Help). It shows the command `./bash_script.sh` being executed, which outputs the contents of 'shakibe.txt': `shakibe`, `hasan`, `Intern`, and `Devops`.

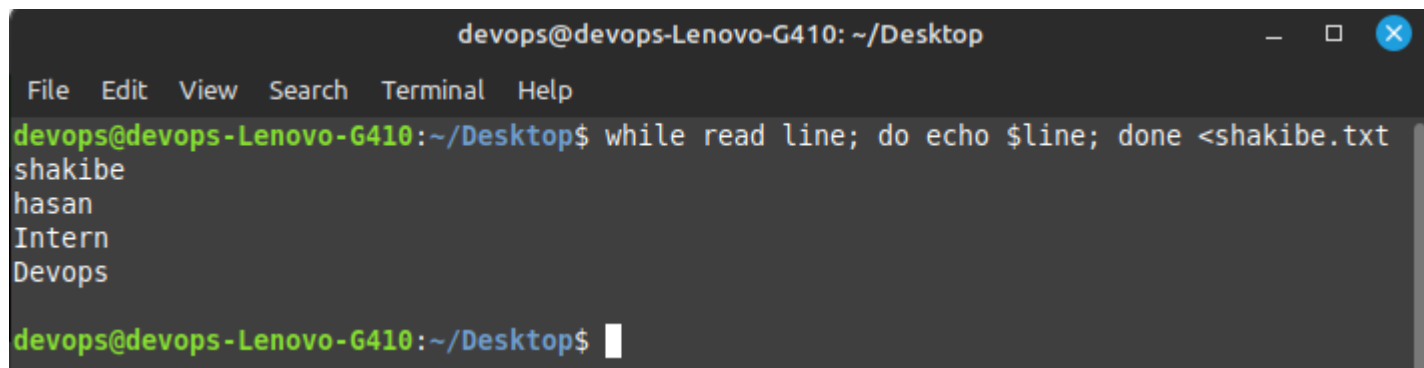
```
bash_script.sh (~/Desktop)
File Edit View Search Tools Documents Help
bash_script.sh x shakibe.txt x
#!/usr/bin/bash
value=$(<shakibe.txt)
echo "$value"

devops@devops-Lenovo-G410: ~/Desktop
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
devops@devops - Lenovo - G410:~/Desktop$ ./bash_script.sh
shakibe
hasan
Intern
Devops
devops@devops - Lenovo - G410:~/Desktop$
```

## Reading File Content from Command-line

### Command

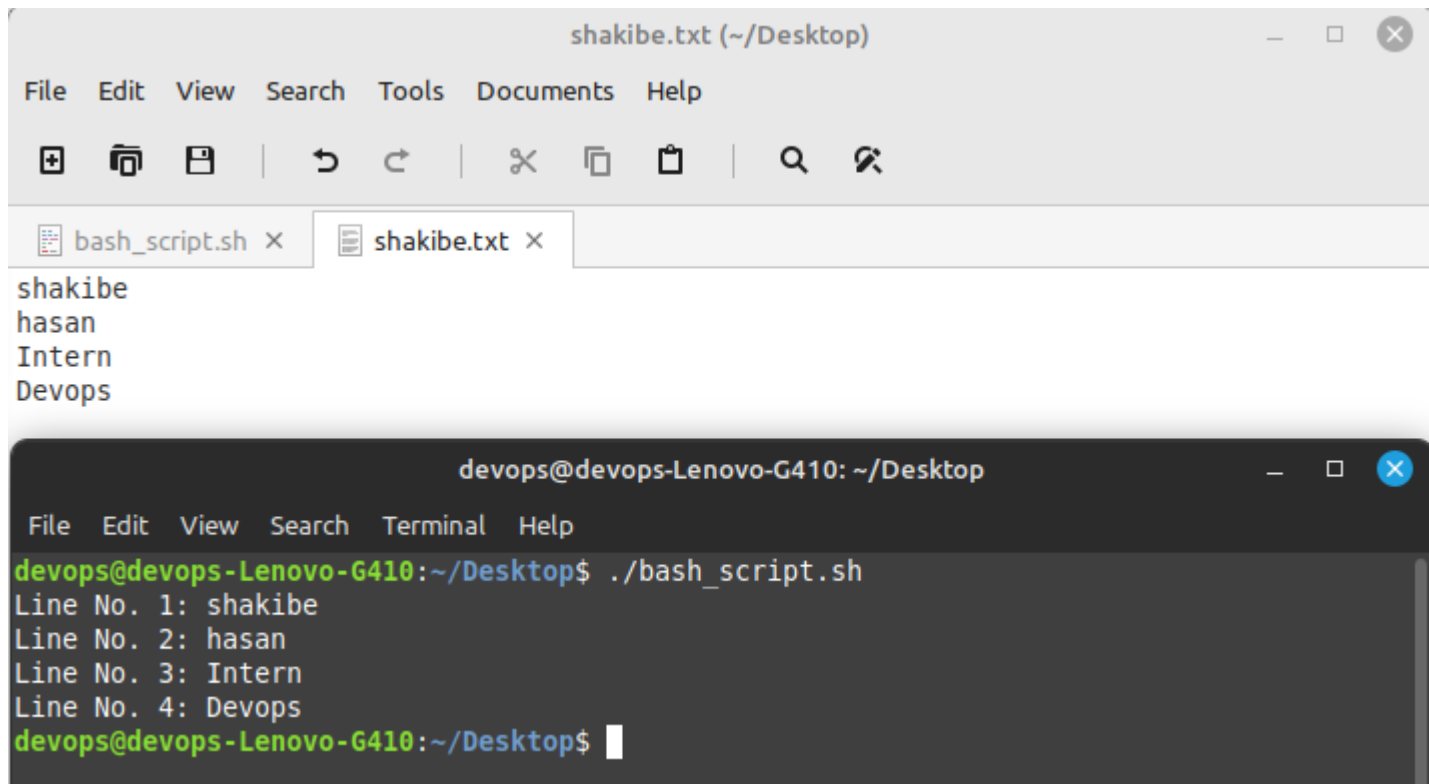
- `while read line; do Command; done < input.file`



The image shows a terminal window titled 'devops@devops-Lenovo-G410: ~/Desktop' with a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Search, Terminal, Help). It shows the command `while read line; do echo $line; done <shakibe.txt` being executed, which outputs the contents of 'shakibe.txt': `shakibe`, `hasan`, `Intern`, and `Devops`.

```
devops@devops-Lenovo-G410: ~/Desktop
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
devops@devops - Lenovo - G410:~/Desktop$ while read line; do echo $line; done <shakibe.txt
shakibe
hasan
Intern
Devops
devops@devops - Lenovo - G410:~/Desktop$
```

## Reading File Content Using Script



The image shows two windows. The top window is a text editor titled 'shakibe.txt (~/Desktop)'. It has a menu bar with File, Edit, View, Search, Tools, Documents, and Help. Below the menu is a toolbar with icons for new, open, save, undo, redo, cut, copy, paste, find, and replace. The editor has two tabs: 'bash\_script.sh' and 'shakibe.txt'. The content of 'shakibe.txt' is:

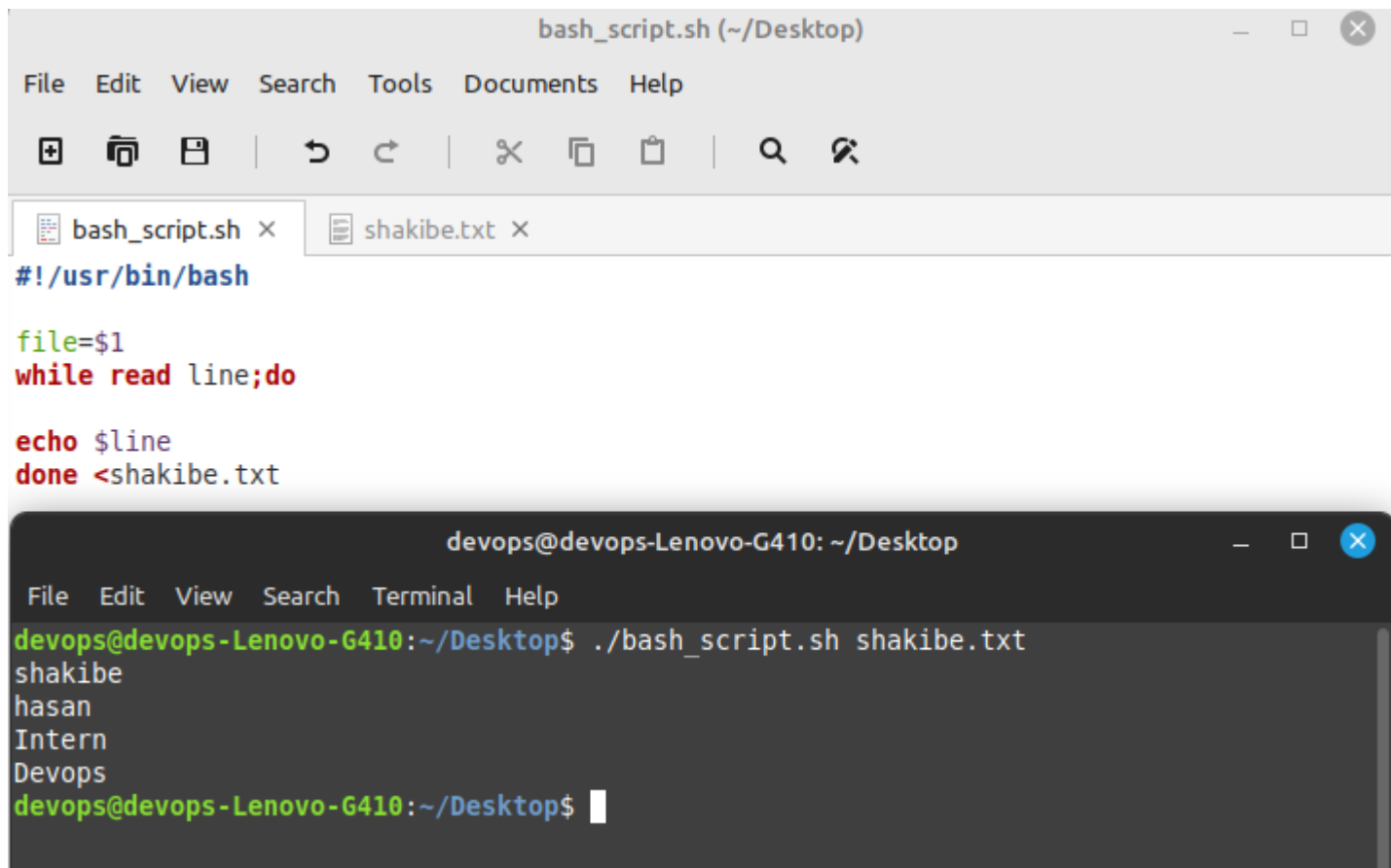
```
shakibe  
hasan  
Intern  
Devops
```

The bottom window is a terminal titled 'devops@devops-Lenovo-G410: ~/Desktop'. It has a menu bar with File, Edit, View, Search, Terminal, and Help. The terminal shows the command `./bash_script.sh` being executed, which outputs the contents of 'shakibe.txt':

```
devops@devops-Lenovo-G410:~/Desktop$ ./bash_script.sh  
Line No. 1: shakibe  
Line No. 2: hasan  
Line No. 3: Intern  
Line No. 4: Devops  
devops@devops-Lenovo-G410:~/Desktop$
```

Here, an existing file named shakibe.txt is stored in \$file variable, and \$i variable is used to keep the value of the line number of that line.

### Passing filename from Command line and reading the File



The image shows two windows. The top window is a text editor titled 'bash\_script.sh (~/Desktop)'. It has a menu bar with File, Edit, View, Search, Tools, Documents, and Help. Below the menu is a toolbar with icons for new, open, save, undo, redo, cut, copy, paste, find, and replace. The editor has two tabs: 'bash\_script.sh' and 'shakibe.txt'. The content of 'bash\_script.sh' is:

```
#!/usr/bin/bash  
  
file=$1  
while read line;do  
  
echo $line  
done <shakibe.txt
```

The bottom window is a terminal titled 'devops@devops-Lenovo-G410: ~/Desktop'. It has a menu bar with File, Edit, View, Search, Terminal, and Help. The terminal shows the command `./bash_script.sh shakibe.txt` being executed, which outputs the contents of 'shakibe.txt':

```
devops@devops-Lenovo-G410:~/Desktop$ ./bash_script.sh shakibe.txt  
shakibe  
hasan  
Intern  
Devops  
devops@devops-Lenovo-G410:~/Desktop$
```

Ref: [javatpoint.com](https://www.javatpoint.com)