

## grep command

The grep command within a Linux or Unix-based system to perform text searches for a defined criteria of words or strings. grep stands for globally search for a regular expression and printing it out.

## grep syntax

grep 'string' filename(s)

## Implementation

example.txt

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]  
$ cat example.txt  
hello world  
Hello World  
Hello Worlds  
Hello Moon  
321 Goodnight
```

## Options

- -i: Prints lines with matching criteria while ignores casing (Upper/Lowecase).

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]  
$ grep -i world example.txt  
hello world  
Hello World  
Hello Worlds
```

- -n: Prints lines with matching criteria and line numbers.

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]  
$ grep -n Hello example.txt  
2:Hello World  
3:Hello Worlds  
4:Hello Moon
```

- -c: Prints count of lines with matching criteria.

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]  
$ grep -c hello example.txt  
1
```

- -v: Prints lines not matching criteria (inverse search).

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]  
$ grep -v world example.txt  
Hello World  
Hello Worlds  
Hello Moon  
321 Goodnight
```

- -w: Prints whole word matches.

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]  
$ grep -w World example.txt  
Hello World
```

- -A n: Prints *n* lines after matches.

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]  
$ grep -A 2 Worlds example.txt  
Hello Worlds  
Hello Moon  
321 Goodnight
```

- -B n: Prints *n* lines before matches.

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]  
$ grep -B 2 Goodnight example.txt  
Hello Worlds  
Hello Moon  
321 Goodnight
```

- -C n: Prints *n* lines before and after matches.

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]  
$ grep -C 2 Worlds example.txt  
hello world  
Hello World  
Hello Worlds  
Hello Moon  
321 Goodnight
```