Bash Shell Scripting

Scheduling jobs with at and crontab Part-1

#!/bin/bash

Learn how to automate common tasks using bash shell scripting

Scheduling jobs with at and crontab:



- at command is very useful for scheduling one time tasks.
- Example:
 - Shutdown system at the specified time
 - Taking a one-time backup.
- Syntax:
 - echo "bash backup.sh" | at 9:00 AM
 - Or
 - Run first: at 9:00 AM then enter and give the cmd or script to run and press ctrl+D.
- Commands used with at:
 - > at : execute commands at specified time.
 - > atq: lists the pending jobs of users.
 - > atrm : delete jobs by their job number.

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Examples of at command:



- Ex-1: Schedule task at coming 10:00 AM.
 - **at 10:00 AM**
- Ex-2: Schedule task at 10:00 AM on coming Sunday.
 - at 10:00 AM Sun
- Ex-3: Schedule task at 10:00 AM on coming 25'th July.
 - at 10:00 AM July 25
- Ex-4: Schedule task at 10:00 AM on coming 22'nd June 2025.
 - **at 10:00 AM 6/22/2015**
 - **at 10:00 AM 6.22.2015**
- Ex-5: Schedule task at 10:00 AM on the same date at next month.
 - at 10:00 AM next month
- Ex-6: Schedule task at 10:00 AM tomorrow.
 - at 10:00 AM tomorrow

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Examples of at command...

- **Ex-7:** Schedule task to execute just after 1 hour.
 - at now + 1 hour
- Ex-8: Schedule task to execute just after 30 minutes.
 - at now + 30 minutes
- Ex-9: Schedule task to execute just after 1 and 2 weeks.
 - at now + 1 week
 - at now + 2 weeks
- Ex-10: Schedule task to execute just after 1 and 2 years.
 - at now + 1 year
 - at now + 2 years
- Ex-1: Schedule task to execute at midnight.
 - at midnight

Thank you