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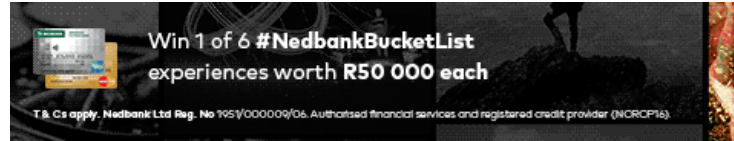
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sed



## sed Cheat Sheet

[Edit Cheat Sheet ↗](#)See Also: [Awk](#)

### Command Syntax

```
/abc/p      # Print all with "abc"
/abc/!p     # Print all without "abc"
/abc/d      # Delete all with "abc"
/abc/!d     # Delete all without "abc"

/start/,/end/!d  # Select a block

s/abc/def/
s/abc\(...\)ghi/\\1/ # Back references
                  # (see below for correct Shell quoting)

/abc/{s/def/ghi}} # Conditional replace
```

### Appending lines

```
aHallo      # Append 'Hallo' after each line
5 aHallo    # Append 'Hallo' after line #5
$ aHallo    # Append 'Hallo' to end of file
```

### Advanced use of sed

#### In-place Editing

To edit file use the -i option this safely changes the file contents without any output redirection needed.

```
sed -i 's/abc/ABC/' myfile.txt
sed -i '/deleteme/d' *
```

#### Drop grep

Often grep and sed are used together. In all those cases grep can be dropped. For example

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```
grep "pattern" file | sed "s/abc/def/"
```

can be written as

```
sed -n "/pattern/p; s/abc/def/"
```

### Grouping with sed

Always use single quotes!

```
sed 's/^\.*(pattern\).*$/\1/'
```

### Single Quoting Single Quotes

If you want to do extraction and need a pattern based on single quotes use `\x27` instead of trying to insert a single quote. For example:

```
sed 's/.*var=\x27\([^x27]*\)\x27.*$/\1/'
```

to extract "some string" from "var='some string'". Or if you don't know about the quoting, but know there are quotes

```
sed 's/.*var=.\([^"\x27]*\)..$/\1/'
```

### Conditional Replace with sed

```
sed '/conditional pattern/{s/pattern/replacement/g}'
```

### Prefix files with a boilerplate using sed

```
sed -i '1s/^/# DO NOT TOUCH THIS FILE!\n\n/' *
```

### Removing Newlines with sed

The only way to remove new line is this:

```
sed ':a;N;$!ba;s/\n//g' file
```

Check out [this explanation](#) if you want to know why.

### Selecting Blocks

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```
sed '/first line/,/last line/!d' file
```

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