

Bash String Comparison

Bash test command allows you to compare string values. You can compare string in six different ways.

Condition	Explanation
[string1 = string2]	Checks if both string string1 and string2 are same.
[string1 != string2]	Checks if string1 is not same as string2
[string1 > string2]	Checks if string1 is greater than string2.
[string1 < string2]	Checks if string1 is less than string2.
[-n string1]	Checks if the length of string1 is greater than zero.
[-z string1]	Checks if the length of string1 is zero.

Note: You must escape greater-than and less-than symbol while comparing string otherwise they will be treated as redirection symbols.

Example: Check if both string are same or not

```
#Bash Script to check both string are same or not
user="root"
read -p "Enter a username: " str
if [ $user == $str ]
then
    echo "Usernames are same."
else
    echo "Usernames are not same."
fi
```

Output of the above program

```
Enter a username: root
Usernames are same.
Enter a username: nginx
Usernames are not same.
```

Example: Check which string is greater than another string

Example: Check if a string variable is empty or not

```
#Bash Script to check whether a string variable is empty or not
str1="Android"
if [ -z $str1 ]
then
    echo "The string variable str1 is empty."
else
    echo "The string variable str1 is not empty."
fi
```

Output of the above program

```
The string str1 is not empty.
```