How to prompt for password in Bash Shell?

You know that to read input from the user, you use `read` command. But when you use `-s` option with `read` command, it does not display the characters entered by the user on the screen and making it suitable for reading password. You can use `-s` option with or without `-p` option.

```bash
#Bash Shell script to input password from the user
echo -n "Enter a password: "
read -s firstpassword
echo
read -s -p "Retype a password: " secondpassword
echo
if [ $firstpassword == $secondpassword ];
then
  echo "Both passwords are same."
else
  echo "You have entered different passwords."
fi
```

Output of the above program

```
Enter a password:
Retype a password:
Both passwords are same.
```

Explanation of the above code-

```
echo -n "Enter a password: "
read -s firstpassword
echo
```

`echo` statement is used to display the message. After this, `read` with `-s` option is for reading the password from the user. `echo` with no message is used to provide new line.

```
read -s -p "Retype a password: " secondpassword
echo
```

Here, we have used `-s` and `-p` options of `read` command to display message and also reading password from the user.

```
if [ $firstpassword == $secondpassword ];
then
   echo "Both passwords are same."
else
   echo "You have entered different passwords."
fi
```

Here, we are checking that both the entered passwords are same or not. If they are same, then we will display "Both passwords are same" otherwise we will display "You have entered different passwords."