

FILTERS

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Filters

- In Linux, a program is a “filter” if it reads from stdin and writes to stdout.
- Filters can be used in pipes.
- Filters provide the powerful means of combining the input and output of a sequence of commands to get the kind of report that you want.

The Head and Tail Commands

- head prints the first n lines of a file or stdin.
- tail prints the last n lines of a file or stdin.

```
ls -l |head -5 # first 5 lines of ls -l
```

```
ls -l |tail -7 # last 7 lines of ls -l
```

```
ls -l |head -10 |tail -5 # lines 6–10
```

The Head and Tail Commands

- `wc` (word count) prints line, word, and char counts.
- `wc -l` prints the number of lines.
- `ls | wc -l` prints number of entries in directory.

