

Bash scripting cheatsheet

Introduction

This is a quick reference to getting started with Bash scri

Learn bash in y minutes

(learnxinyminutes.com)

Bash Guide

(mywiki.wooledge.org)

Bash Hackers Wiki

(wiki.bash-hackers.org)

Example

```
#!/usr/bin/env bash
```

```
name="John"
echo "Hello $name!"
```

String quotes

```
name="John"
echo "Hi $name"    #=> Hi John
echo 'Hi $name'   #=> Hi $name
```

Conditional execution

```
git commit && git push
git commit || echo "Commit failed"
```

Shell execution

See [Command substitution](#)

Conditionals

```
if [[ -z "$string" ]]; then
  echo "String is empty"
elif [[ -n "$string" ]]; then
  echo "String is not empty"
fi
```

See: [Conditionals](#)

Strict mode

```
set -euo pipefail
IFS=$'\n\t'
```

See: [Unofficial bash strict mode](#)

Parameter expansions

Basics

```
name="John"
echo "${name}"
echo "${name/J/j}"      #=> "john" (substitution)
echo "${name:0:2}"       #=> "Jo" (slicing)
echo "${name::2}"        #=> "Jo" (slicing)
echo "${name::-1}"       #=> "Joh" (slicing)
echo "${name:(-1)}"      #=> "n" (slicing from right)
echo "${name:(-2):1}"    #=> "h" (slicing from right)
echo "${food:-Cake}"     #=> $food or "Cake"
```

```
length=2
echo "${name:0:length}" #=> "Jo"
```

See: [Parameter expansion](#)

```
str="/path/to/foo.cpp"
echo "${str%.cpp}"      # /path/to/foo
echo "${str%.cpp}.o"    # /path/to/foo.o
echo "${str%/*}"        # /path/to

echo "${str##*.}"       # cpp (extension)
echo "${str##*/}"        # foo.cpp (basepath)

echo "${str#*/}"         # path/to/foo.cpp
echo "${str##*/}"        # foo.cpp

echo "${str/foo/bar}"   # /path/to/bar.cpp
```

```
str="Hello world"
echo "${str:6:5}"      # "world"
echo "${str: -5:5}"    # "world"
```

```
src="/path/to/foo.cpp"
base=${src##*/}          #=> "foo.cpp" (basepath)
dir=${src%$base}          #=> "/path/to/" (dirpath)
```

Substitution

`${foo%suffix}`

`${foo#prefix}`

`${foo%%suffix}`

`${foo%/suffix}`

`${foo##prefix}`

`${foo#/prefix}`

`${foo/from/to}`

`${foo//from/to}`

`${foo%from/to}`

`${foo#/from/to}`

Manipulation

```
str="HELLO WORLD!"
echo "${str,,}"      #=> "hELLO WORLD!" (lowercase 1st)
echo "${str,,,}"     #=> "hello world!" (all lowercase)
```

```
str="hello world!"
echo "${str^}"        #=> "Hello world!" (uppercase 1st)
echo "${str^^}"       #=> "HELLO WORLD!" (all uppercase)
```

Loops

Basic for loop

C-like for loop

```
for i in /etc/rc.*; do
    echo "$i"
done
```

```
for ((i = 0 ; i < 100 ; i++)); do
    echo "$i"
done
```

Reading lines

```
while read -r line; do
    echo "$line"
done <file.txt
```

Forever

```
while true; do
    ...
done
```

Functions

Defining functions

```
myfunc() {
    echo "hello $1"
}
```

```
# Same as above (alternate syntax)
function myfunc() {
    echo "hello $1"
}
```

```
myfunc "John"
```

Returning values

```
myfunc() {
    local myresult='some value'
    echo "$myresult"
}
```

```
result=$(myfunc)
```

Arguments

\$#

\$*

\$@

\$1

\$_

Note: \$@ and \$* must be quoted in order to perform as described (separate strings).

See [Special parameters](#).

Conditionals

Conditions

File conditions	
Note that [[is actually a command/program that returns either 0 or 1. (like all base utils, such as grep(1) or ping(1)) can be used as condition)	[[-e FILE]]
[[-z STRING]]	[[-r FILE]]
[[-n STRING]]	[[-h FILE]]
[[STRING == STRING]]	[[-w FILE]]
[[STRING != STRING]]	[[-s FILE]]
[[NUM -eq NUM]]	[[-f FILE]]
[[NUM -ne NUM]]	[[-x FILE]]
[[NUM -lt NUM]]	[[FILE1 -nt FILE2]]
[[NUM -le NUM]]	[[FILE1 -ot FILE2]]
[[NUM -gt NUM]]	[[FILE1 -ef FILE2]]
[[NUM -ge NUM]]	Greater than or equal
[[STRING =~ STRING]]	Regexp
((NUM < NUM))	Numeric conditions
More conditions	
[[-o noclobber]]	If OPTIONNAME is enabled
[[! EXPR]]	Not
[[X && Y]]	And
[[X Y]]	Or

Arrays

Defining arrays

Working with arrays

```
Fruits=( 'Apple' 'Banana' 'Orange' )
```

```
Fruits[0]="Apple"
Fruits[1]="Banana"
Fruits[2]="Orange"
```

Operations

```
Fruits=("${Fruits[@]}" "Watermelon")      # Push
Fruits+=('Watermelon')                     # Also Push
Fruits=( "${Fruits[@]//Ap*/}" )            # Remove by regex match
unset Fruits[2]                           # Remove one item
Fruits=("${Fruits[@]}")                   # Duplicate
Fruits=("${Fruits[@]}" "${Veggies[@]}")    # Concatenate
lines=(`cat "logfile"`)                  # Read from file
```

```
echo "${Fruits[0]}"
echo "${Fruits[-1]}"
echo "${Fruits[@]}"
echo "${#Fruits[@]}"
echo "${#Fruits}"
echo "${#Fruits[3]}"
echo "${Fruits[@]:3:2}"
echo "${!Fruits[@]}"
```

Iteration

```
for i in "${arrayName[@]}"
  echo "$i"
done
```

Dictionaries

Defining

```
declare -A sounds
```

```
sounds[dog]="bark"
sounds[cow]="moo"
sounds[bird]="tweet"
sounds[wolf]="howl"
```

Declares sound as a Dictionary object (aka associative array).

Working with dictionaries

```
echo "${sounds[dog]}" # Dog's sound
echo "${sounds[@]}"   # All values
echo "${!sounds[@]}" # All keys
echo "${#sounds[@]}" # Number of elements
unset sounds[dog]    # Delete dog
```

Options

Options

```
set -o noclobber # Avoid overlay files (echo "hi" > foo)
set -o errexit   # Used to exit upon error, avoiding cascading errors
set -o pipefail  # Unveils hidden failures
set -o nounset   # Exposes unset variables
```

Glob options

```
shopt -s nullglob      # N
shopt -s failglob     # N
shopt -s nocaseglob   # C
shopt -s dotglob       # W
shopt -s globstar      # A
```

Set GLOBIGNORE as a colon-separated list of patterns

History

Commands

history

shopt -s histverify

Operations

!!

!!!:s/<FROM>/<TO>/

!!!:gs/<FROM>/<TO>/

!\$:t

!\$:h

!! and !\$ can be replaced with any valid expansion.

Expansions

!\$

Don't execute ex !*

! -n

!n

Execute last command again

Replace first occurrence of <FROM> to <TO> in most recent command

Slices

Replace all occurrences of <FROM> to <TO> in most recent command

Expand only basename from last parameter !!:n

Expand only directory from last parameter !!:^

!\$

!!!:n-m

!!!:n-\$

!! can be replaced with any valid expansion

Miscellaneous

Numeric calculations

\$((a + 200)) # Add 200 to \$a

\$((RANDOM%200)) # Random number 0..199

Subshells

(cd somedir; echo "I'm in \$PWD"; pwd) # still in first dir

Redirection

```
declare -i count # Declare as type integer
Inspecting commands
count+=1 # Increment

command -V cd
#=> "cd is a function/alias/whatever"
```

```
python hello.py > output
python hello.py >> output
python hello.py >> error
/n
it.

python hello.py &>/dev/n
echo "$0: warning: too m
```

Trap errors

```
trap 'echo Error at about $LINENO' ERR
```

or

```
traperr() {
    echo "ERROR: ${BASH_SOURCE[1]} at about ${BASH_LINENO[0]}"
}

set -o errtrace
trap traperr ERR
```

Case/switch

```
case "$1" in
    start | up)
        vagrant up
        ;;
    *)
        echo "Usage: $0 {sta
        ;;
esac
```

Source relative

```
source "${0%/*}/../share/foo.sh"
```

printf

Transform strings

```
printf "Hello %s, I'm %s
#=> "Hello Sven, I'm Olg
```

-c	Operations apply to characters not in the given set
-d	Delete characters
-s	Replaces repeated characters with single occurrence
-t	Truncates
[:upper:]	All upper case letters
[:lower:]	All lower case letters
[:digit:]	Directory of script
[:space:]	All digits
[:alpha:]	dir=\${0%/*}
[:alnum:]	All letters
	Getting options
	All letters and digits

Example

```
echo "Welcome To Devhints" | tr '[:lower:]' '[:upper:]'
WELCOME TO DEvhINTS
```

Heredoc

```
cat <<END
hello world
END
```

Reading input

```
echo -n "Proceed? [y/n]: "
read -r ans
echo "$ans"
```

The `-r` option disables a peculiar legacy behavior with backslashes.

```
read -n 1 ans      # Just one character
```

Go to previous directory

```
pwd # /home/user/foo
cd bar/
pwd # /home/user/foo/bar
cd -
pwd # /home/user/foo
```

Grep check

```
if grep -q 'foo' ~/.bash_history; then
    echo "You appear to have typed 'foo' in the past"
fi
```

```
while [[ "$1" =~ ^-&& !(
    -V | --version )
    echo "$version"
    exit
    ;;
    -s | --string )
    shift; done
```

```
esac; shift; done
if [[ "$1" == '--' ]]; t
```

Special variables

`$?`

`$!`

`$$`

`$0`

`$_`

`PIPESTATUS[n]`

Check for command's re

```
if ping -c 1 google.com;
    echo "It appears you h
fi
```

Also see

[Bash-hackers wiki](#) (bash-hackers.org)

[Shell vars](#) (bash-hackers.org)

[Learn bash in y minutes](#) (learnxinyminutes.com)

[Bash Guide](#) ([mywiki.wooledge.org](https://mywiki.wooledge.org/Bash_Guide))

[ShellCheck](#) (shellcheck.net)

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