

Bash Tips and Tricks

to use on CircleCI, and in life

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Agenda

- Why Bash?
- Talking to the internet with Bash
- Getting values out of functions
- Handling errors
- Bonus tips (time permitting)

Why Bash?

- It's in your terminal
- It's on your servers
- It speaks Unix
- It's good glue

In-Depth Example

- Talking to the internet with Bash
- Getting values out of functions
- Handling errors

Bonus Tip #1: Quote Everything!

```
kevin@mbp ~/test $ a="FOO BAR" touch $a
kevin@mbp ~/test $ ls
total 0
-rw-r--r--  1 kevin  staff    0B Mar 24 11:25 BAR
-rw-r--r--  1 kevin  staff    0B Mar 24 11:25 FOO
kevin@mbp ~/test $ a="FOO BAR" touch "$a"
kevin@mbp ~/test $ ls
total 0
-rw-r--r--  1 kevin  staff    0B Mar 24 11:25 BAR
-rw-r--r--  1 kevin  staff    0B Mar 24 11:25 FOO
-rw-r--r--  1 kevin  staff    0B Mar 24 11:25 FOO BAR
```

Bonus Tip #2:

Even Quote "\$@"

```
1 #!/bin/bash
2
3 for arg in $@; do
4     echo "$arg"
5 done
```

```
1 #!/bin/bash
2
3 for arg in "$@"; do
4     echo "$arg"
5 done
```

```
kevin@mbp ~ $ ./test.sh foo "bar baz" qux
foo
bar
baz
qux
```

```
kevin@mbp ~ $ ./test.sh foo "bar baz" qux
foo
bar baz
qux
```

Bonus Tip #3: Use Double Brackets

```
kevin@mbp ~ $ [ $PATH && -z $FOOBAR ] && echo "true"
-bash: [: missing `]'
kevin@mbp ~ 2 $ [[ $PATH && -z $FOOBAR ]] && echo "true"
true
kevin@mbp ~ $
```

****Bonus Bonus tip:** Use ``man test`` to quickly refer to all the test options

Bonus Tip #4:

Use Bash on CircleCI!!

```
1 test:
2   post:
3     - echo "This can be any bash command"
4     - ./my-script.sh # You can run scripts too!
5     - python -m SimpleHTTPServer:
6       background: true # Don't use "&" to background things
7     - "my funky: command" # Quote if required for YAML
8
```


References

GreyCat's Wiki (the source of all my power):

<http://mywiki.woledge.org/BashGuide>

and

<http://mywiki.woledge.org/BashFAQ>

JQ (sed, awk, and grep for JSON):

<https://stedolan.github.io/jq/>

This talk:

<https://github.com/bellkev/bash-talk>

Questions?