

Bash

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The “*bourne again shell*”; descending from *bourne sh*, which supplanted *csh*, the “*C shell*”.

```
echo $SHELL      # current shell
chsh /bin/sh     # Δ default
```

1 Command-Line Editing

Wildcards

```
~      expand to user's home dir
?      match a single char
*      match string of chars
{ }    any char in set
[! ]   any char not in set
$      expands to all alternatives
escape <char> to normal
'<wild>' wildcard → literal
\      line continuation
```

Examples:

```
[abc]      # set match
[a-c]      # same as above
~alice     # alice's home
ls *.c,h,o # C program files
find . -name '*c' # delay wildcd expand
echo '2 * 3 > 5' # wildcd → literals
```

Quoting Rules

Single quotes around strings suppress all wildcard expansion; double quotes suppress everything but `{...}` expansion. In general, use single quotes, except when requiring dollar-sign expansion.

Control Keys

Use **trap** to handle signals, which are issued like:

```
ctrl-c  stop current command
ctrl-d  end of input
ctrl-\  quit
ctrl-s  halt output to screen
ctrl-q  restart output to screen
ctrl-?  erase last character
ctrl-u  erase entire command line
ctrl-z  suspend current command
```

Hot Keys (“bindings”)

bind ties key sequences to certain activities. System-wide bindings are in `/etc/inputrc` and user-specific in `~/.inputrc`. These customizations control the command-line interpreter, which is named **readline**.

```
bind ""\C-t": "test"      # bind string test
bind -x ""\C-t": "date"    # bind executable
bind -l                   # list bindable f'ns
bind -P                   # list all bindings
```

2 History Expansion

History expansion offers advanced techniques, but it is often better to use *emacs* or *vi*-style command editing instead.

Event Designators

```
!      start hist substitution
!!     last command
!
```

Word Designators

“Word designators” and “modifiers” must be separated from “event designator” using a colon (:).

```
0      zero-th word in a line
<int>  <int>th word in a line
^      first argument in a line
$      last arg in a line
%      match of most recent search
<int>-<int> range of words
*      all words but the first
<int>*  equivalent to <int>-$
<int>-  words from <int> to penult.
```

Modifiers

```
h      remove pathname, leaving head
r      remove trailing suffix
e      remove all but suffix
t      remove leading path (tail remains)
p      only print resulting command
q      quote the substituted words
x      ibid, breaking into words
<sed>  <sed> substitution ( s/old/new/)
```

Examples

```
!2048:p      # print 2048th cmd
!!:0 newarg   # last cmd, new args
```

3 Emacs Mode

The default command-line editor; change with: `set -o vi` # ... to vi editor

Character Movement / Editing

```
ctrl-b  back one char
ctrl-f  forward one char
del     delete one char back
ctrl-d  delete one char forward
```

Word Movement / Editing

```
esc-b   move one word back
esc-f   move one word forward
esc-del kill one word back
esc-ctrl-h kill one word back
esc-d   kill one word forward
ctrl-y  yank last item killed
```

Line and History Commands

```
ctrl-a  move to line begin
ctrl-f  move to end of line
ctrl-k  kill to end of line
ctrl-p  move up line
ctrl-n  move to next line
ctrl-r  search backward
esc-<   move to 1st hist line
esc->   move to last hist line
esc-?   expand all choices
```

Completion Commands

```
<tab>   general text completion
esc-?   expand all choices
esc-/   filename completion
ctrl-x  list filename possibilities
esc~    username completion
ctrl-x ~ list username possibilities
esc-$   attempt variable completion
ctrl-x $ list possible variables
esc-@   attempt hostname completion
ctrl-x @ list hostname possibilities
esc-!   attempt command completion
ctrl-x ! list possible commands
esc-<tab> attempt completion from hist
```

4 Environment

Environment Files

Several files control shell settings:

```
/etc/profile      system settings
~/.bash_profile   user settings, read @ login
~/.bash_login     synonym for ibid
~/.profile        synonym for ibid
~/.bashrc         read @ subshell init
~/.bash_logout    read @ shell logout
```

Given the difference of when they are read, it is considered best practice to minimize the contents of `.bash_profile` to commands that write to console; instead, putting most definitions / aliases / etc into `.bashrc`

Aliases

```
alias name=command # alias syntax
```

Inspiration:

```
alias cdprj='cd ~/Projects/' # alias syntax
alias ls='ls -l'              # recursion is ok!
```

Options

Options for **set**; **set/unset** like:
`set -o <opt>; set +o <opt>`

allexport	noglob (f)	monitor	nounset
Braceexp'nd	Histexp'nd	noexec	verbose
notify (b)	history	Physical	vi
noClobber	hashall	privileged	xtrace
errexit	ignoreeof	posix	-
emacs	keyword	onecmd (t)	

Options for **shopt**; **set/unset** like:
`shopt -s<arg>; shopt -u<arg>`

cdable_vars	dotglob	histverify	nullglob
cdspell	execfail	hostc'mplete	pr'mptvars
checkhash	exp'd_aliases	int._c'mnts	shift_vrb'se
ch'ckw'nsiz	histappend	lithist	sourcepath
cmdhist		mailwarn	

Environment Variables

export promotes a simple variable into an environment variable, to be inherited by all subshells.

*	FIGNORE	LC_COLL'G	PS2
@	GL'BLIGN'R	LC_MSGS	PS3
#	GROUPS	LINENO	PS4
~	IFS	MACHTYPE	PPID
?	HISTCMD	MAIL	PWD
~	HISTCTL	MAILCH'CK	RANDOM
\$	HISTFILE	MAILPATH	REPLY
!	HISTSIZE	OLDPWD	SECONDS
0	HOME	OPTARG	SHELL
BASH	HOSTFILE	OPTERR	SHELLOPTS
BASH_ENV	HOSTNAME	OPTIND	SHVL
BASH_VS'N	HOSTTYPE	OSTYPE	TIMEF'MT
CDPATH	IGNOREEOF	PATH	TMOUT
DIRSTACK	INPUTRC	PIPESTAT	UID
EUID	LANG	P'MPT_C'MD	auto_resume
FCEDIT	LC_ALL	PS1	histchars

Directory Search Path

`CDPATH` gives shell a list of places to look for the location of the argument to **cd**, eg:

```
CDPATH=~:/Projects/
Alternatively, run shopt -o cdable_vars and then define “cdable” aliases a la:
cs=~:/Projects/cheatsheets/ # set normal var
cd cs                          # Δs dir accordingly
```

Prompt String

Prompt can be customized to indicate current directory, date, shell name, and other information. ∃ 4 different prompt variables: `PS1`, `PS2`, `PS3`, `PS4`. For example (more here), set `PS1` to a string like:

```
\u@h \w      # user, host, & WD
!!$ str|\?> # cmd #, content of str
\e[0;34m\u@h \w> \e[m # light blue
['myfunc']> # run shell fn
[\$(script.sh)]> # run shell script
```

5 Types

Similarly-named commands are first taken to be aliases, then keywords, functions, “built-ins”, and finally scripts, in that order. Override this precedence with: **builtin** or **command**, or by disabling higher-precedent commands with **enable -n**. Use **declare [afFrx]** to set a type explicitly, otherwise type string is assumed. Use **type [afFtP]** to ascertain typing information about a variable.

Variables

Subshells inherit environment variables only; all others remain local to invoking shell. Variables are assumed global unless declared otherwise.

```
myvar="12345" # basic assignment
```

```
source myvar      # promotn to envmt
local mylocvar    # local to a func
echo $myvar       # regurgitate
echo "$myvar"     # more correct!
echo "${myvar}"   # the above does this
```

Functions

```
function myfunc1  # syntax 1
{
  ...            # statements
}                #
```

```
myfunc ( )       # syntax 2
declare -f        # list all funcs
```

Invoke a function like a command, passing args right afterward. When doing so, positional params (\$1, ...) will reflect args passed to the function.

Strings

“String expansion” is the dereferencing of a variable (assumed a string), per **echo \$<var>** syntax above. “String operators” afford handling of strings, including default values and error messages:

```
- ${<var>:-<word>} ... <var> ? <var> : <word>
- ${<var>:=<word>} ... above, plus set var=word
- ${<var>:?<msg>} ... <var> ? <var> : abort
- ${<var>:+<word>} ... <var> ? <word> : NULL
- ${<var>:<offset>} ... substrng expansion
- ${<var>:<offset>:<len>} ... ibid
```

A class of string operators use “pattern matching”, which allows for quick (though syntactically obscure) manipulation of string contents:

```
- ${<var>#<ptrn>} ... delete shortest match
- ${<var>##<ptrn>} ... delete longest match
- ${<var>%<ptrn>} ... delete shortest match
- ${<var>%%<ptrn>} ... delete longest match
- ${<var>/<ptrn>/<str>} ... sub 1st <p> with <s>
- ${<var>/<ptrn>/<str>} ... sub all <p> with <s>
```

Common pattern-matching idioms:

```
$(path##*/ )      # only filename
$(path#*/ )       # strip 1st dir
$(path)           # full path & file
$(path%.* )       # strip last extension
$(path%.* )       # strip all .* extens's
```

Output using **echo** or **printf** (advanced), eg:
echo -en "hello\t world" # note: echo optns
printf "|%10s|\n" hello # works like C versn

Numerics

“Numeric expansion” is indicated by **\$((<expr>))** syntax, where <expr> allows a wide range of simple mathematical expressions.

```
$( ( 365 - $(date +%j) ) ) # wks to new year ☺
[ \ ( 2 -gt 2\ ) && \ ( 4 -le 1 \ ) ] # good
[ $( ( 3 > 2 ) && ( 4 <= 1 ) ) = 1 ] # better
(( ( 3 > 2 ) && ( 4 <= 1 ) )) # best
```

Arrays

```
names[2]=alice      # indexed assign
names=( [2]=alice [0]=bob ) # compound asgn
names=(bob " alice) # ibid
declare -a myarr     # empty array
for i in "${names[@]}" # @ → “all”
"${!names[@]}"        # print all indices
"${#names[@]}"        # array length
```

Command Substitution

\$(<command> <arg>*) # syntax

“Command substitution” expands the results of a called command into a string, eg:

```
$(ls $HOME)         # contents of ~/
cd $(DIR_STACK%% *) # what popd does
```

6 Flow Control

Executed commands run in a subshell; called functions block and run in the same shell. Use **return <int>** to exit immediately encapsulating function, or **exit <int>** to exit script. Loops admit the usual **break** syntax.

Conditions

Success or failure of a command, via its exit status, is sufficient to implement a condition (<cond>) below. though **test** is often used instead. Form logical combinations of <cond>s using ORs (||) and ANDs (&&), or **test**’s **-o**, **-a** flags, respectively. Negate phrases with exclamation (!):
 if [<cond>] && [<cond>] # ANDed <cond>s
 if [<cond>] -a [<cond>] # sole ANDed **test**
 if [-x "\$1" -a ! -d "\$1"] # idiom: is executable

Test Command

test evaluates an expression. The results, in the form of exit statuses, are ubiquitously used in flow-control statements, as a means of implementing a more general condition (<cond>). Sadly, an exit status of 0 is a “success”; 1 or other is a “failure”. [...] is a shorthand for **test**, and the following options control the evaluation:

```
-b is block dev  -c is char dev
-c is dir       -e exists
-f is regular   -g setgid set
-G owned by grp -k sticky bit set
-L is sym link  -n str non-null
-O owned by usr -p is pipe
-r is readable  -s is non-empty
-S is a socket  -t n n points to term
-u setuid bit   -w writeable
-x executable
```

Can also use comparison operators =, !=, <, >, <=, >=, ==, the first four of which can be used with strings or numerics; or exclusively numeric comparison operators **-lt**, **-le**, **-eq**, **-ge**, **-gt**, **-ne**, as well as +, -, *, /, %, <=, >=, \$, |, ~, !, ^, . **Warning:** use double quotes for **[-n "\$<var>"]** tests, as empty

strings otherwise still succeed!

If / Else

```
if <cond>          # <cond> is often a test
then              # idiom: append to prev line
  <stmt>*
elif <cond>        # optional as usual
  <stmt>*
else              # optional as well
  <stmt>*
fi                # requires new line
```

For

```
for <i> in <list>   # <i> used only in loop
do                # requires n.l. (or for ; do)
  <stmt>*
done              # can now use <i>
                  # requires new line
```

Eg, iterate PATH or files in . using:
 IFS=:; for dir in \$PATH; do ls -ld \$dir; done
 for f in \$(ls -l); do

Newer bash versions afford a “numeric for,” which approximates traditional for loops:

```
for (( <init> ; <end> ; <update> )); do ...
for (( i=1 ; i<=12 ; i++ )); do ...
```

Case

```
case <expr> in
  <ptrn> )          # <expr> is a string
    <stmt>* ;;      # <ptrn> is another string
  <ptrn> )          # note double ; to end
    <stmt>* ;;      # as many cases as needed
  <ptrn>|<ptrn> )   # log'ly ORed <ptrn>s
    <stmt>* ;;      #
  *)                # optional “catch-all” case
    <stmt>* ;;      #
esac                # on its own line
```

Select

A higher-level interface for implementing menus. Alternatively, can elicit input more manually using lower-level **read** invocations. Note: idiomatically, user-prompts write to STDERR.
 select <sel> in <list> # options from <list>
 do # on own line
 <stmt>* # can now use <sel>
 done # on own line

While / Until

```
while <cond> ; do   # <cond> tests exit status
  <stmt>*
done                #
until <cmd>; do     # do while <cmd> fails
  <stmt>*
done                #
```

echo “\$var” | while IFS= read -r ln ; do ...; done

Eg, expand on previous PATH iteration:
 path=\$PATH; while [\$path] ;

do ls -ld \${path%%.*}; path=\${path#*.*} ; done

Eg, process command-line args without getopt:
 while [-n "\$(echo \$1 | grep '"')"] ;
 do ...; shift ; done

7 Command-line Args

Positional Parameters

“Positional parameters” (\$1, \$2, ...) hold passed parameters; while # holds # of params and *, @ hold all params (in a string, array, respectively). For manual parsing, **shift** pops the top of the positional parameter stack. Use **getopts** for complex parsing (eg, multiple options, not all required).

getopts

```
getopts <options_list> <option>
getopts assigns each successive command-line argument to <option>. <options_list> describes available options: assign a letter for each, separated by colons, with an optional first colon to override default getopts error msg. If an option has an argument, getopts will store the current one in OPTARG.
while getopts "a:b:C" opt ; do
  case $opt in
    a ) <stmt>
      \ ) echo "usage"; exit 1 ;
  esac ; done
```

eval

eval affords dynamic creation of shell commands. Eg, programmatically create a pipeline by storing each step into a string, then **eval**ing it:
 eval \$convert \$file \$scale \$border > \$outfile

8 Input / Output Processing

Examples / Idioms

```
"$@"> logfile > 2>&1 & # bg job; err, out to log
"$@"| tee logfile &    # ibid (synonym)
```

Synopsis

	pipe	>	std out
<	std in	>>	append out
>	force out	n>	force to n
<>	in & out	n<>	in, out to n
<<	“here doc”	n>	out to FD n
<n	FD in n	n>>	FD append n
n>&	dup out	n<&	dup in, FD n
n>&m	n follows m	n<&m	n follows m
&>	out & err	<&-	close std in
>&-	close s-out	n>&-	close n-out