Note 6: Wildcards

*

Definition:

The main wildcard is a star or asterisk (*) character. A star alone matches anything and nothing and matches any number of characters.

Examples:

- `ls *.txt`
- `ls ~/Downloads/*.png`
- `ls file.*`

?

Definition:

The ? wildcard meta character matches precisely one character. The ? wildcard proves useful when working with hidden files (*hidden files are also called* **dot files**).

Examples:

- `ls .??*`
- `ls ./.??*`
- `ls ~/Downloads/f?ll.sh`

[]

Definition:

The brackets wildcard match a single character in a range. The brackets wildcard use the exclamation mark to reverse the match.

Examples:

- `ls f[aeiou]*`
- `ls ~/Downloads/f[0-9]ll.sh`
- `ls f[a-z]*`
- `ls *[0-9]*`

{}

Definition:

Brace expansion {} is not a wildcard but another feature of bash that allows you to generate arbitrary strings to use the commands.

Examples:

- `touch website{1..5}.html`
- `touch file{A..Z}.txt`
- `touch file{001..10}.py`