

bash scripting – functions

Adapted from materials by Dr. Carrier



Declaring and calling functions

```
function my_function() {  
  commands  
}
```

To call:

```
my_function
```

Function parameters

Just like normal command line args!

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```
function my_function() {  
    echo "You passed: $1"  
}
```

To call:

```
my_function foo
```

Example - What does this output?

```
function repeat() {  
  range=$(seq 0 $2)  
  for i in $range  
  do  
    echo "$1"  
  done  
}  
  
repeat "hello" 5  
repeat "!!!" 10  
repeat $1 $2
```

A note on scope

You have to mark variables as local, but it is good practice!

```
function my_function() {  
    local x  
    x=5  
    echo "Inside function: x = ${x}"  
}
```

```
x=1  
echo "Before function: x = ${x}"  
my_function  
echo "After function: x = ${x}"
```