

Output Redirection

All standard output streams are connected to the console; any output appears on your screen. You can **redirect standard output** by using the **>** symbol when you run:

```
$ cat < input.txt > output.txt
```

This time, no output will appear on your screen; instead, the file **output.txt** will be created and all the output, which would have been sent to the screen, will instead be written to the file. **This can be a little dangerous**, because if there is **already** an **output.txt**, it will be **overwritten** with the new data.

Ater you've typed the previous line, you can examine the new contents of **output.txt** by using **cat** again, like this:

```
$ cat < input.txt  
This is text stored in "input.txt".  
A second line in input.txt  
$
```

Instead of erasing the existing data in the output file, you can **append** to it by using the **>>** symbols like this:

```
$ cat < input.txt >> output.txt
```

Try it and see what **output.txt** contains now.



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