

1. Search text file with the grep tool

The grep tool is built into the operating system so you don't need to install it.

⇒ The simplest system to find a string in a single file using the grep command is:
grep 'searched-word' filename

By default, the search with grep is case sensitive.

Let's gradually add most useful options to our search

1. Make the search case-insensitive with the "-i" option:

grep -i 'search-word' filename

2. Search recursively in all files in a given directory with the "-r" option:

grep -ir 'search-word' '/directory'

3. Search whole words only with the "-w" option

grep -irw 'search-word' '/directory'

4. Print the line numbers in which the search word was found with the "-n" option

grep -irwn 'search-word' '/directory'

5. Search for multiple words syntax

grep -ir 'word1/word2/word3' '/directory'

2. Search MomKey

Search MomKey is a free and open source GUI application for Linux OS, which uses the capabilities of the grep tool. Search MomKey is also available for Windows and Mac OS.

In addition to searching in text files, Search MomKey supports: Open Office and LibreOffice files (.odt) Microsoft Office files (.docx); PDF files (.pdf)

The tool can search a directory recursively and returns the file names and the highlighted content that you search

1. install the app with following command in terminal
sudo apt install searchmomkey

3. Recall

4. Doc Fetcher

sudo snap install docfetcher

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Free and open source app