

Glob Patterns and Wildcards: Takeaways



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Syntax

- Wildcards:
 - `?` matches any single character.
 - `*` matches any string of characters.
 - `[list_of_characters]` matches any characters in `list_of_characters`.
 - `[!list_of_characters]` matches any characters **not** in `list_of_characters`.
 - `[:alpha:]` matches any letter.
 - `[:digit:]` matches any number.
 - `[:alnum:]` matches any letter or number.
 - `[:lower:]` matches any lowercase letter.
 - `[:upper:]` matches any uppercase letter.

Concepts

- We can use **wildcards** to create patterns to match groups of filenames.
- These patterns, called **glob patterns**, work in a similar way to regular expressions, albeit with different rules.
- We can use glob patterns with most commands, making them an extremely powerful tool.
- Because they're very powerful, we need to be careful with them, especially when it comes to commands that modify the filesystem (like `rm`).

Resources

- [Character classes](#) in GNU.
- [Globbing and Regex: So Similar, So Different](#).
- [Glob patterns and regular expressions summary](#).
- The [glob function](#).
- [Locale](#).
- `find` :
 - [How to Find a File in Linux Using the Command Line](#)
 - [35 Practical Examples of Linux `find` Command](#)
 - [Unix Find Tutorial](#)
- The `locate` command — an alternative to `find` :
 - [Linux `locate` command](#)
 - [10 Useful `locate` Command Practical Examples for Linux Newbies](#)



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