

# Rick Foos HowTo Blog

The HowTo blog when the other HowTo's need a few extra notes.

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- 2016 (1)
- 2014 (1)
- 2013 (2)
- 2012 (13)
- ▼ 2011 (34)
  - December (8)
  - November (5)
  - October (1)
  - September (6)
  - ▼ August (10)
    - [HowTo: Have Doxygen support Bash/Awk/Sed Script fi...](#)
    - [HowTo: Find Earthquakes in Real Time](#)
    - [HowTo: Build apt-rpm for embedded](#)
    - [HowTo: Admin a Memcached Server](#)
    - [HowTo: Nvidia HDMI out and Analog audio out combined!](#)
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Monday, August 29, 2011

## HowTo: Have Doxygen support Bash/Awk/Sed Script files.

[OSDir.com - text.doxygen.general - Re: Having Doxygen support script languages - msg#00027](#)

Doxygen doesn't support bash script files. While that probably makes sense, to not support them (define a bash script file in terms of functions and variables), there are always a few laying around in a source tree that should go into the document.

It's easiest to add the script files without changing them, so a doxygen input filter. Input filters work pretty good with command line sed or awk commands, so we'll do a simple one here that lets you add Doxygen commands comeent lines starting with ##.

Edit these lines in your Doxyfile:

```
FILE_PATTERNS = *.sh *.awk
INPUT_FILTER = "sed -e 's|##|/*!|'"
FILTER_SOURCE_FILES = YES
```

Add a brief description to the top of each file:

```
## functions for OpenEmbedded, and Jenkins -*- shell-script -*-.
## @author rickfoosusa
## @file
```

Generally anything with # for a comment will work, but for languages you get a lot more documentation by using a filter like `asm4doxy.pl` <http://rudy.mif.pg.gda.pl/~bogdro/inne/asm4doxy.txt>

Posted by [Unknown](#) at [4:42 PM](#) 

8 comments:

Anonymous [April 3, 2012 at 4:31 PM](#)

Thanks a lot dude! Just enough to get there!

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- June (1)
- 2010 (6)

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[Unknown](#) [October 9, 2013 at 3:46 AM](#)

Hey,  
first thanks a lot, the following little adds completeness  
of code-display:  
`INPUT_FILTER = "sed -e 's|##\(.*\)|##\1 //!\1|'"`

Arno-Can Uestuensoez

[Reply](#)



[chiefblm](#) [October 31, 2013 at 10:46 AM](#)

I am having trouble with Doxygen parsing a bash script. I  
have a few assigns at the top, like x=1 then y=1 ... it  
can't parse out y as a separate variable. Is there  
something I am missing in my config? or is there some  
doxygen comment to add?

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[Ein Blog](#) [November 11, 2014 at 5:43 PM](#)

That's a great lead to adapt any kind of files being  
documented using Doxygen. I've been using your code to  
create an answer at StackOverflow regarding documentation  
of `makefile` `templates/snippets`:  
<http://stackoverflow.com/questions/26874238/can-doxygen-be-used-to-document-makefile-templates-and-include-mk-file-interfa>

[Reply](#)



[Unknown](#) [May 9, 2015 at 4:20 PM](#)

Thanks for your valuable hints.

I'm working with: Doxyfile 1.8.9.1 and i needed to set:

- `EXTENSION_MAPPING = sh=C++`

too to get it producing comments.

[Reply](#)

Anonymous [May 20, 2015 at 6:42 AM](#)

For the record, I'm maintaining a more complex doxygen  
filter for bash scripts. Don't hesitate to fill bug  
reports or feature request if you feel like to :  
<https://github.com/Anvil/bash-doxygen/>

[Reply](#)[Unknown July 8, 2015 at 4:40 PM](#)

Looks good. I'm looking to document some (sets of) awk scripts, and this might work for me, too. While awk does have a "function" keyword to help identify them, initially I might just filter that keyword out. Not sure what to do with the "pattern recognition" rules yet. They are sort of like a chain of ifs or generalized switch/case selected by data record content. Has anyone else done awk script documentation with doxygen? I like the idea of using and adapting standard open source tools whenever possible.

[Reply](#)[mik October 6, 2018 at 1:49 AM](#)

White listing Doxygen lines with grep is an effective workaround. It keeps only lines starting with #///

- EXTENSION\_MAPPING = sh=C++
- FILTER\_PATTERNS = "\*.sh=\"grep ^#///\""

There is no source parsing possible and all formatting has to be done with Doxygen syntax.

An improvment would be to replace filtered lines with empty lines instead of removing them. Doxygen provides source line references in its documentation

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