

Bash Pattern Matching Cheatsheet

Pattern Matching (globs)	
Operator	Function
*	Matches any string including the null.
?	Matches single character
[a-zA-Z]	Matches case insensitive letters a - z
[0-9a-Z]	Matches case insensitive letters and numbers
**/*	Matches all files and zero or more directories and subdirectories
/	Matches only directories and subdirectories
Character Classes	
Operator	Function
[:alnum:]	Matches alphabetic or numeric characters. This is equivalent to [A-Za-z0-9]
[:alpha:]	Matches alphabetic characters. This is equivalent to [a-zA-Z]
[:space:]	Matches whitespace characters (space and horizontal tab)
[:cntrl:]	Matches control characters
[:digit:]	Matches (decimal) digits. This is equivalent to [0-9]
[:lower:]	Matches lowercase alphabetic characters. This is equivalent to [a-z]
[:upper:]	Matches uppercase alphabetic characters. This is equivalent to [A-Z]
[:print:]	Matches characters in the range of ASCII 32 – 126 (printable characters)
[:xdigit:]	Matches hexadecimal digits. This is equivalent to [0-9A-Fa-f]
ls [[:digit:]]	
Extended Pattern Matching (extended globs)	
Operator	Function
*(pattern)	Matches zero or more occurrences of the given pattern
+(pattern)	Matches one or more occurrences of the given pattern
?(pattern)	Matches zero or one occurrence of the given pattern
@(pattern)	Matches exactly one of the given pattern
!(pattern)	Matches anything except one of the given pattern
ls -d !(*.html *gif *jpg) # everything but .html, .jpg or .gif files ls file+([0-9]) # list file9, file22 but not fileit	