1   help

Using sed, Insert a line below (or above) the pattern? [duplicate]

This question already has an answer here:
how to insert a line using sed before a pattern and after a line number? *3 answers*

I need edit a good number of files, by inserting (2) lines either right below a unique pattern or above it. please advise how to do it using sed, awk, perl or anything else in shell. thanks

```
some text
Hello My love, you're dirty girl
more text
```

I want to insert 'I know, I am, my sexy knight' after ' Hello My love, you're dirty girl', so output file will look like

```
some text
Hello My love, you're dirty girl
I know, I am, my sexy knight
more text
```

scripting   sed   awk

edited Jul 27 '12 at 20:30	asked Jul 27 '12 at 20:08
	vehomzzz
	12.3k 47 129 193

marked as duplicate by Kevin, Avadhani Y, Siddharth, mishik, Undo ♦ Jul 7 '13 at 4:22
This question has been asked before and already has an answer. If those answers do not fully address your question, please ask a new question.

1   1) What have you tried, 2) Provide some test input and desired output. – Thor Jul 27 '12 at 20:13

1   I didn't try anything because I have no idea how to do it. I searched google, quora,and stackoverflow and didnt find simila – vehomzzz Jul 27 '12 at 20:41

1   Google your title, the first 5 results after this all have answers that will work. – Kevin Jul 7 '13 at 2:54

4 Answers

To append after the pattern: (-i is for inplace replace). line1 and line2 are the lines you want to append(or prepend)

```
sed -i '/pattern/a \
line1 \
line2' inputfile
```

To prepend the lines before:

```
sed -i '/pattern/i \
line1 \
line2' inputfile
```

edited Jul 27 '12 at 20:26	answered Jul 27 '12 at 20:17
	Kamal
	1,520 2 16 21

5   The examples insert a space after `line1` (tested with GNU sed). The backslash should follow without a space: `line1\` . Only the spaces after the `a` and `i` commands are ignored. – pabouk Dec 2 '15 at 22:11

1   how to mix the prepend while reading the lines from another file where `sed -i '/pattern/ r somefile.txt' ?` – Aquarius Power May 1 '16 at 2:21

The following adds one line after `SearchPattern` .

```
sed -i '/SearchPattern/aNew Text' SomeFile.txt
```

It inserts `New Text` one line below each line that contains `SearchPattern` .

To add **two lines**, you can use a `\` and enter a newline while typing `New Text`.

POSIX sed requires a `\` and a newline after the `a` sed function. [1] Specifying the text to append without the newline is a GNU sed extension (as documented in the `sed` info page), so its usage is not as portable.

[1] http://unix.stackexchange.com/questions/52131/sed-on-osx-insert-at-a-certain-line/

edited Feb 11 '16 at 6:17	answered Jul 27 '12 at 20:18
Juan **179** 12	jahroy **13.7k** 4 31 52

1   One-liner example makes it easier for me to understand, and most-applicable for most of my use-cases. Thanks. – Johnny Utahh Jul 7 '15 at 15:18

Insert a new verse after the given verse in your stanza:

```
sed -i '/^Hello My love, you're dirty girl$/ s:$:\nI know, I am, my sexy knight:' FILE
```

edited Jul 27 '12 at 20:43	answered Jul 27 '12 at 20:24
	alinsoar **5,238** 1 17 35

1   explain please. – vehomzzz Jul 27 '12 at 20:33

I added a comment. – alinsoar Jul 27 '12 at 20:37

see my example please – vehomzzz Jul 27 '12 at 20:40

1   Done. Note that 'Hello My love, you're dirty girl' must be the only string on the line. – alinsoar Jul 27 '12 at 20:46

More portable to use ed; some systems don't support \n in sed

```
printf "/^Hello My love, you're dirty girl/a\nI know, I am, my sexy knight\n.\nw\nq\n" |\
     /bin/ed $filename
```

answered Jun 5 '13 at 21:28
Chris Rees **11** 1