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"Yes/No" in Bash Script – Prompt for Confirmation

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Very often in bash scrips you need to **ask for user input** that requires a **Yes or No** answer.

For example, you may want to put a quick "Are you sure?" prompt for **confirmation before execution** of some potentially dangerous part of a **bash script**.

In this article you'll find three easiest and fastest ways to **prompt for "Yes/No" confirmation** in bash script.

Prompt To Continue In Bash

The best way to **prompt for a confirmation to continue** in a bash script is to use the read command (source (http://stackoverflow.com/questions/1885525/how-do-i-prompt-a-user-for-confirmation-in-bash-script)):

```
read -p "Are you sure? " -n 1 -r
echo    # (optional) move to a new line
if [[ ! $REPLY =~ ^[Yy]$ ]]
then
    exit 1
fi
```

Simple "Yes/No" Dialog In Bash

One of the most widely used method to ask user for a confirmation in a bash script is to combine `read` + `case` commands (source (http://stackoverflow.com/questions/226703/how-do-i-prompt-for-input-in-a-linux-shell-script)):

```
while true; do
    read -p "Do you wish to install this program?" yn
    case $yn in
        [Yy]* ) make install; break;;
        [Nn]* ) exit;;
        * ) echo "Please answer yes or no.";;
    esac
done
```

Select From "Yes/No" Menu In Bash

Another easy method is to use `select` command (source (http://stackoverflow.com/questions/226703/how-do-i-prompt-for-input-in-a-linux-shell-script)):

```
echo "Do you wish to install this program?"
select yn in "Yes" "No"
case $yn in
    Yes ) make install;;
    No ) exit;;
esac
```

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