**[Shell Script Help: Waiting for one command to end before continuing?](http://forums.devshed.com/linux-help-33/shell-script-help-waiting-command-continuing-467642.html?s=fafe1f6ece951c52991e7f0c07ca2333" \o "Reload this Page)**

|  |
| --- |
| Normally, shell commands are executed in-sequence. That is, the next statement is not run until the current one is done executing, whether or not it was successful. So if this is the case you can merely write your script one command after another.  However, if you are manually running backgrounded tasks within the script, you can use the **wait** built-in command to *have the script pause until a process* (given either by a process ID number - "PID," or *by the job identifier) terminates executing, whether successfully or not*. You can also choose to wait for *all* backgrounded tasks to finish by not passing an argument.   * You can then use the **$?** - special variable: to retrieve the exit status of the most-recently terminated background job or process * use **$!** - special variable to gain the PID of the most recently started job/process. * **# unzip CMS-Viettel.zip &**   **# wait $!** |