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Lab - xprog

The problem

When we write a new script on Linux, we need to give it a name.

We need to check: Is this name already in use? (You should not call it "ls", for example.)

We also need to make the script executable.

The assignment

Write a program "xprog" to do all these checks for us.

Usage:

When we make a new program, we type:

```
xprog (program name)
```

This checks **if this is a suitable name for a program**, and if so, launches the editor and makes sure the file is executable.

Recipe - For 40%

1. Figure out how to take in an **argument** on the command line and echo it back.
2. When the above is working: Use **"which"** with that argument to see if a program with that name exists.
3. When the above is working: Echo the **return code** of "which".
4. When the above is working: Make "which" silent by **re-directing both output streams to null**. The code to do this is to put this at the end of the line:

```
> /dev/null 2> /dev/null
```

For 100%

1. When the above is working: Write an **if statement** based on this return code. The if statement echos whether the program name is taken or not.
2. Warning: The return code variable shows the return code of *the last command* we executed, which may now be "echo" not "which". So you can now delete the echo statement.
3. When the above is working: If good program name, use "touch" to create the file.
4. When the above is working: Use **"chmod"** to make the file executable.

5. When the above is working: Launch the editor, **detached** from the current process.

Testing

- `xprog grep` - rejected
- `xprog newprog` - ok, created, is executable, editor launched

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