

Redirection and Pipelines: Takeaways

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Syntax

- Printing `Hello, world!` to the screen: `echo "Hello, world!"` .
- Creating empty files: `touch file1 file2` .
- Creating a file `output` by redirecting the output `cmd` : `cmd >output` .
- Appending the output of running `cmd` to the file `output` : `cmd >>output` .
- Connecting the output of `cmd1` to the input of `cmd2` : `cmd1 | cmd2` .
- Discarding the output of `cmd` : `cmd >/dev/null` .

Concepts

- Creating empty text files is sometimes useful.
- With output redirection we can save our work into files.
- We should be mindful of situations in which we'll want to append output.
- Redirecting errors isn't as simple as it seems.
- Pipelines allows us to very easily combine commands together.
- A couple of the benefits of pipelines are efficiency and ease of use.
- The Unix Philosophy:

This is the Unix philosophy. Write programs that do one thing and do it well. Write programs to work together. Write programs to handle text streams, because that is a universal interface.

Resources

- The [printf command](#)
- [GNU Project's](#) documentation on [Pipelines](#)
- [POSIX standards on pipelines](#)
- The [null device](#)
- [Professor Brian Kernighan](#) on Computerphile [talking about Unix](#)

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