

- If you choose your filenames carefully, you can use a simple expression to access a whole lot of them.
- The * (known as a metacharacter) isn't the only special character used by the UNIX system; there are several others.

Programming Facility

- The UNIX shell is also a programming language; it was designed for a programmer, not a casual end user.
- It has all the necessary ingredients, like control structures, loops and variables, that establish it as a powerful programming language in its own right.
- These features are used to design shell scripts-programs that can also invoke the UNIX commands.

Documentation

- UNIX documentation is no longer the sore point it once was. Even though it's sometimes uneven, at most times the treatment is quite lucid.
- The principal online help facility available is the man command, which remains the most important reference for commands and their configuration files.

POSIX AND SINGLE UNIX SPECIFICATION

- UNIX fragmentation and the absence of a single conforming standard adversely affected the development of portable applications.
- First, AT and T created the System V Interface Definition (SVID).
- Later, X/Open (The open group), a group of vendors and users, created the X/Open portability Guide (XPG).
- Products conforming to this specification were branded unix95, unix98 or unix03 depending the version of specification.
- Portable Operating System Interface for Computer Environments (POSIX) were developed at behest of Institution of Electrical and electronics Engineers (IEEE).