

Lab: Other tests

You have the ability to list customers and delete them. But our scripts are not quite ready for prime-time because they're not doing error-checking. What if the customers.txt file doesn't exist? What if it isn't writable? We should make sure that if any condition isn't met, we properly handle that problem.

Making sure the data file exists

5. Modify your deleteCustomer script. Near the top of it, make it check to ensure that customers.txt exists. If it does not exist, print out an error message to stderr and exit with a code of 1.
6. Run and test. Temporarily move customers.txt so you can see your error.

Making sure the functions script is executable

7. We'll also need customerFunctions.bash in order to run. Do the same check for the existence of customerFunctions.bash. If it isn't there, exit with a code of 2.
8. Run and test.
9. Now change that test Using an "and" logical operator, make sure that customerFunctions.bash is also executable. Adjust your error message accordingly.
10. Run and test. You can temporarily chmod customerFunctions.bash to remove execute permission.

Making sure that it can be modified

11. Change the script to check if customers.txt is changeable by this process. (Hint: -w). If not, error message to stderr and exit with a code of 4.
12. Run and test. You can temporarily chmod -w customers.txt to see your error message.

A friendlier delete script

Right now your delete script is probably accepting only a "Y" as an answer. Let's make it more robust and flexible.

13. Find where you're asking the user if we can delete the customer.
14. Test to make sure the response has something in it; that the user typed something in. If not, exit with a nonzero return code.
15. Test to make sure the response is a "Y" or "y" or "N" or "n". If it is anything other than that, tell the user to try again because that wasn't a legal response. Exit with any nonzero return code.

Your script is much better! Take a well-deserved rest.