

Bash scripting cheatsheet

Introduction

This is a quick reference to getting started with Bash

Learn bash in y minutes

(learnxinyminutes.com)

Bash Guide

(mywiki.woledge.org)

Bash Hackers Wiki

(wiki.bash-hackers.org)

Example

```
#!/usr/bin/env bash
```

```
name="John"
echo "Hello $name!"
```

String quotes

```
name="John"
echo "Hi $name"    #=> Hi John
echo 'Hi $name'    #=> Hi $name
```

Conditional execution

```
git commit && git push
git commit || echo "Commit failed"
```

Shell execution

See [Command substitution](#)

Conditionals

```
if [[ -z "$string" ]]; then
  echo "String is empty"
elif [[ -n "$string" ]]; then
  echo "String is not empty"
fi
```

See: [Conditionals](#)

Strict mode

```
set -euo pipefail
IFS=$'\n\t'
```

See: [Unofficial bash strict mode](#)

Parameter expansions

Basics

```
name="John"
echo "${name}"
echo "${name/J/j}"      #=> "john" (substitution)
echo "${name:0:2}"      #=> "Jo" (slicing)
echo "${name::2}"        #=> "Jo" (slicing)
echo "${name::-1}"       #=> "Joh" (slicing)
echo "${name: (-1)}"     #=> "n" (slicing from right)
echo "${name: (-2):1}"   #=> "h" (slicing from right)
echo "${food:-Cake}"    #=> $food or "Cake"
```

```
length=2
echo "${name:0:length}" #=> "Jo"
```

See: [Parameter expansion](#)

```
str="/path/to/foo.cpp"
echo "${str%.cpp}"      # /path/to/foo
echo "${str%.cpp}.o"    # /path/to/foo.o
echo "${str%/*}"        # /path/to

echo "${str##*.*}"      # cpp (extension)
echo "${str##*/}"       # foo.cpp (basepath)

echo "${str#*/}"        # path/to/foo.cpp
echo "${str##*/}"       # foo.cpp

echo "${str/foo/bar}"   # /path/to/bar.cpp
```

```
str="Hello world"
echo "${str:6:5}"       # "world"
echo "${str: -5:5}"     # "world"
```

Substitution

`${foo%suffix}`

`${foo#prefix}`

`${foo%%suffix}`

`${foo##prefix}`

`${foo/from/to}`

`${foo//from/to}`

`${foo/%from/to}`

`${foo/#from/to}`

Length

`${#foo}`

Default values

`${foo:-val}`

`${foo:=val}`

`${foo:+val}`

`${foo:?message}`

```
src="/path/to/foo.cpp"
base=${src##*/}    #=> "foo.cpp" (basepath)
dir=${src%$base}   #=> "/path/to/" (dirpath)
```

Omitting the `:` removes the (non)nullity check for `$foo`.

Loops

Basic for loop

```
for i in /etc/rc.*; do
    echo "$i"
done
```

C-like for loop

```
for ((i = 0 ; i < 100 ; i++)); do
    echo "$i"
done
```

Reading lines

```
while read -r line; do
    echo "$line"
done <file.txt
```

Forever

```
while true; do
    ...
done
```

Functions

Defining functions

```
myfunc() {
    echo "hello $1"
}
```

```
# Same as above (alternate syntax)
function myfunc() {
    echo "hello $1"
}
```

```
myfunc "John"
```

Returning values

```
myfunc() {
    local myresult='some value'
    echo "$myresult"
}
```

```
result=$(myfunc)
```

Arguments

```
$#
```

\$*

\$@

\$1

\$_

Note: \$@ and \$* must be quoted in order to do the same thing (arguments as separate strings)

See [Special parameters](#).

Conditionals

Conditions

Note that `[[` is actually a command/program that returns either 0 or 1, so you can use it in a `test` command that obeys the same logic (like all base utils, such as `grep(1)`), see examples.

`[[-z STRING]]`

`[[-n STRING]]`

`[[STRING == STRING]]`

`[[STRING != STRING]]`

`[[NUM -eq NUM]]`

`[[NUM -ne NUM]]`

`[[NUM -lt NUM]]`

`[[NUM -le NUM]]`

`[[NUM -gt NUM]]`

`[[NUM -ge NUM]]`

File conditions

`[[-e FILE]]`

`[[-r FILE]]`

`[[-h FILE]]`

`[[-d FILE]]`

`[[-w FILE]]`

`[[-s FILE]]`

`[[-f FILE]]`

`[[-x FILE]]`

`[[FILE1 -nt FILE2]]`

`[[FILE1 -ot FILE2]]`

`[[FILE1 -ef FILE2]]`

Greater than

Greater than or equal

<code>[[STRING =~ STRING]]</code>	Regexp
<code>((NUM < NUM))</code>	Numeric conditions
More conditions	
<code>[[-o noclobber]]</code>	If OPTIONNAME is enabled
<code>[[! EXPR]]</code>	Not
<code>[[X && Y]]</code>	And
<code>[[X Y]]</code>	Or

Arrays

Defining arrays

Working w

```
Fruits=('Apple' 'Banana' 'Orange')
```

```
Fruits[0]="Apple"
Fruits[1]="Banana"
Fruits[2]="Orange"
```

```
echo "${Fruits[0]}"
echo "${Fruits[1]}"
echo "${Fruits[2]}"
echo "${#Fruits[@]}"
echo "${#Fruits[0]}"
echo "${#Fruits[1]}"
echo "${#Fruits[2]}"
echo "${#Fruits[@]}"
```

Operations

```
Fruits=("${Fruits[@]}" "Watermelon") # Push
Fruits+=('Watermelon') # Also Push
Fruits=( "${Fruits[@]}/Ap*/}" ) # Remove by regex match
unset Fruits[2] # Remove one item
Fruits=("${Fruits[@]}") # Duplicate
Fruits=("${Fruits[@]}" "${Veggies[@]}") # Concatenate
lines=(`cat "logfile"`) # Read from file
```

Iteration

```
for i in `cat "logfile"`
do
    echo "$i"
done
```

Dictionaries

Defining

```
declare -A sounds

sounds[dog]="bark"
sounds[cow]="moo"
sounds[bird]="tweet"
sounds[wolf]="howl"
```

Declares sound as a Dictionary object (aka associative array).

Working with dictionaries

```
echo "${sounds[dog]}" # Dog's sound
echo "${sounds[@]}"   # All values
echo "${!sounds[@]}"  # All keys
echo "${#sounds[@]}"  # Number of elements
unset sounds[dog]     # Delete dog
```

Options

Options

```
set -o noclobber # Avoid overlay files (echo "hi" > foo)
set -o errexit   # Used to exit upon error, avoiding cascading errors
set -o pipefail  # Unveils hidden failures
set -o nounset   # Exposes unset variables
```

Glob options

```
shopt -s r
shopt -s f
shopt -s r
shopt -s c
shopt -s c
```

Set GLOBIGNORE

History

Commands

```
history
```

Expansion

Show !\$

!!	Execute last command	!!:n
!!:s/<FROM>/<TO>/	Replace first occurrence of <FROM> to <TO> in most recent command	!^
!!:gs/<FROM>/<TO>/	Replace all occurrences of <FROM> to <TO> in most recent command	!\$
!\$:t	Expand only basename from last parameter of most recent command	!!:n-m
!\$:h	Expand only directory from last parameter of most recent command	!!:n-\$
!! and !\$ can be replaced with any valid expansion.		!! can be replaced with !

Miscellaneous

Numeric calculations

```
$((a + 200))    # Add 200 to $a
```

```
$(($RANDOM%200)) # Random number 0..199
```

```
declare -i count # Declare as type integer
count+=1         # Increment
```

Inspecting commands

Subshells

```
(cd somedir;
pwd # still in somedir)
```

Redirection

```
python hello.py > /dev/null
python hello.py >> /dev/null
python hello.py >>> /dev/null
python hello.py >>>> /dev/null
python hello.py >>>>> /dev/null
python hello.py >>>>>> /dev/null
```

```
if grep -q 'foo' ~/.bash_history; then
    echo "You appear to have typed 'foo' in the past"
fi
```

```
pwd # /home/user/foo
```

```
read -n 1 ans    # Just one character
```

```
[:lower:]
```

All lower case

`${PIPESTATUS}`

```
[:digit:]
```

See Special Characters

```
[:space:]
```

All whitespace

```
[:alpha:]
```

All letters

```
[:alnum:]
```

All letters and digits

Example

```
echo "Welcome To Devhints" | tr '[:lower:]' '[:upper:]'
WELCOME TO DEVHINTS
```


Also see

[Bash-hackers wiki \(bash-hackers.org\)](#)

[Shell vars \(bash-hackers.org\)](#)

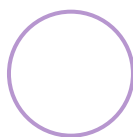
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