

Bash arithmetic

WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING



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Bash arithmetic **expansion** provides a powerful tool for performing arithmetic operations in scripts. Translating a string into a numerical expression is relatively straightforward using backticks (`), double parentheses **(())**, or **let**.

Example 1: #

```
i=1  
i=`expr $i + 1`  
echo $i
```



Where, **expr** is an all-purpose expression evaluator.

Example 2: #

```
i=1  
j=$(( i+1 ))  
echo $j
```



An example consisting of `let`

Example 3: #

```
let i=3+5
echo "3 + 5 =" $i
```



Order of Precedence operators are evaluated in order of precedence. The levels are listed in order of decreasing precedence:

```
id++ id--
    variable post-increment and post-decrement
++id --id
    variable pre-increment and pre-decrement
- +    unary minus and plus
! ~    logical and bitwise negation
**     exponentiation
* / %  multiplication, division, remainder
+ -    addition, subtraction
<< >> left and right bitwise shifts
<= >= < >
    comparison
== !=  equality and inequality
&      bitwise AND
^      bitwise exclusive OR
|      bitwise OR
&&    logical AND
||     logical OR
expr?expr:expr
    conditional operator
= *= /= %= += -= <<= >>= &= ^= |=
    assignment
expr1 , expr2
    comma
```

Apart from the precedence, **operators that work with integers** are given below with some examples:

{title="Operator's order of Precedence in Bash"}

Operator	Description	Example	Output
+	Addition	<code>echo \$((10 + 1))</code>	11
-	Subtraction	<code>echo \$((11 - 1))</code>	10
/	Division	<code>echo \$((10 / 2))</code>	5
*	Multiplication	<code>echo \$((10 * 5))</code>	50
%	Modulus	<code>echo \$((10 % 3))</code>	1
++	post-increment (add variable value by 1)	<code>x=5;echo \$((x++));echo \$((x++))</code>	5 6
--	post-decrement (subtract variable value by 1)	<code>x=5; echo \$((x--))</code>	4
**	Exponentiation	<code>x=3;y=3;echo \$((x ** y))</code>	9

Code example: #

```
#!/bin/bash

x=1
y=2
declare -i n
n=$((x+y))
```



```
echo "Result is:$n"

# bash convert binary number input x
n=2 # $x
echo $n

# bash convert octal number input x
n=8 # $x
echo $n

# bash convert hex number input x
result=16 # $x
echo $n
```



Bash floating point calculations

You can perform floating point operation in Bash using the `bc` arbitrary precision calculator language. Note the need to escape the multiply operator `*` with a backslash (`\`) or enclose the arithmetic expression in single quotes (`' '`).

Examples:

```
$ x = 1.1
$ y = 2.2
$ echo x + y | bc -l
3.3

$ echo x - y | bc -l
-1.1

$ echo x \* y | bc -l
2.42

$ echo 'x * y' | bc -l
2.42

$ echo 'x / y' | bc -l
.5000

$ z=`echo '$x / $y' | bc -l`
$ echo $z
.5000

# Wrong use

$ echo x * y | bc -l
1.1
```



Note that there should be no space between the variable name and the equal sign (`=`) in the assignment, otherwise an error occurs.

