Cheatography

grep (english) Cheat Sheet

by TME520 (TME520) via cheatography.com/20978/cs/4065/

Usage

Grep standard output (i.e. a stream of text)

grep [*-options*] *'string'*

Grep the content of a file

grep [*-options*] *'string' filename*

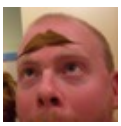
Wildcards are accepted in *filename*.

General Regular Expression Processor

Operation	Option	Example
Find a string in 1 or more files		grep 'string' filename1 filename2 ... filename*n*
Case insensitive search	i	grep -i 'string' filename
Use regular expressions (regex)		grep 'regex' filename
Look for words	w	grep -w 'word' filename
Display *n* lines after matching string	A	grep -A n 'string' filename
Display *n* lines before matching string	B	grep -B n 'string' filename
Display *n* lines around matching string	C	grep -C n 'string' filename
Recursive grep	r	grep -r 'hackers-club.cn' /var/log/apache2/archives/
Return all lines which don't match the pattern	v	grep -v 'warning' /var/log/syslog
Use regex	e	grep -e 'string1' -e 'string2' filename
		grep --regexp 'string' filename
Return lines starting with 'al'		grep -e '^al' filename
Use extended regex	E	grep -E 'apache|wheel|root' filename
Get lines containing 1+ w		grep -E 'w+' filename
Get lines with 3 w in a row (www)		grep -E 'w{3}' filename
Get lines containing between 3 and 6 m in a row		grep -E 'm{3,6}' filename
Get lines containing jason or jackson		grep -E 'ja(s|cks)on' filename
Count results	c	grep -c 'error' /var/log/syslog
Display filename	l	grep -l 'string' /var/log/*
Only show the matching part of the string	o	grep -o 'string' filename
Show line number	n	grep -n 'string' filename

About grep -E: In basic regular expressions the meta-characters '?', '+', '{', '|', '(', and ')' lose their special meaning; instead use the backslashed versions '\?', '\+', '\{', '\|', '\(', and '\)'.

GNU grep -E emulates classic meta-characters. The command 'grep -E '{1'' searches for the 2-character string '{1' instead of reporting an error. POSIX allows this behavior as an extension, but portable scripts should avoid it.



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Regular expressions : wildcards

.	Any character.
?	Optional and can only occur once.
*	Optional and can occur more than once.
+	Required and can occur more than once.
{n}	Previous item appears exactly *n* times.
{n,}	Previous item appears *n* times or more.
{,m}	Previous item appears *n* times maximum.
{n,m}	Previous item appears between *n* and *m* times.
[:alpha:]	Any lower and upper case letter.
[:digit:]	Any number.
[:alnum:]	Any lower and upper case letter or digit.
[:space:]	Any whitespace.
[A-Za-z]	Any lower and upper case letter.
[0-9]	Any number.
[0-9A-Za-z]	Any lower and upper case letter or digit.

Regular expressions : anchors and positions

^	Beginning of line.	grep '^Once upon a time' /home/livres/lovestory.txt
$	End of line.	grep 'divorced.$' /home/livres/lovestory.txt
^$	Empty line.	
\<	Start of word.	grep '\<love\>' /home/manga/seinen.txt
\>	End of word.	

Characters to escape

\	.
[	^
$	'
*	- (start of line only)

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