

INTERLAB

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ISSUE: how to use grep

OS : Linux 1 2.6.x

Vernouillet, 29.03.2010

Issue:

Finding a chaîne of characters inside of an ASCII conf file somewhere in /etc

This could be a nightmare, if you do not know the exact file to edit, but you know what is already there...

GREP will save your nerves.

Syntax: `grep "chaîne_you_search" path -R`

chaîne_you_search

path conversions are standard or relative or absolute

-R option is needed if the search is to be done over lower subdirectories

```
david@stargate:/home/$ grep "Consult your" /home/* -R
grep: ~find: No such file or directory
/home/www/docs/aaton/docs/Privat/TarKan/readme.txt:Consult your Mac manual since the
procedure is different
david@stargate:/home/$
```

MORE...

grep command syntax

```
grep 'word' filename
grep 'string1 string2' filename
cat otherfile | grep 'something'
command | grep 'something'
```

Use grep to search file

Search /etc/passwd for boo user:

```
$ grep boo /etc/passwd
```

You can force grep to ignore word case i.e match boo, Boo, BOO and all other combination with -i option:

```
$ grep -i "boo" /etc/passwd
```

Use grep recursively

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You can search recursively i.e. read all files under each directory for a string "192.168.1.5"

```
$ grep -r "192.168.1.5" /etc/
```

Use grep to search words only

When you search for boo, grep will match fooboo, boo123, etc. You can force grep to select only those lines containing matches that form whole words i.e. match only boo word:

```
$ grep -w "boo" /path/to/file
```

Use grep to search 2 different words

use egrep as follows:

```
$ egrep -w 'word1|word2' /path/to/file
```

Count line when words has been matched

grep can report the number of times that the pattern has been matched for each file using -c (count) option:

```
$ grep -c 'word' /path/to/file
```

Also note that you can use -n option, which causes grep to precede each line of output with the number of the line in the text file from which it was obtained:

```
$ grep -n 'word' /path/to/file
```

Grep invert match

You can use -v option to print inverts the match; that is, it matches only those lines that do not contain the given word. For example print all line that do not contain the word bar:

```
$ grep -v bar /path/to/file
```

UNIX / Linux pipes and grep command

grep command often used with pipes. For example print name of hard disk devices:

```
# dmesg | egrep '(s|h)d[a-z]'
```

Display cpu model name:

```
# cat /proc/cpuinfo | grep -i 'Model'
```

However, above command can be also used as follows without shell pipe:

```
# grep -i 'Model' /proc/cpuinfo
```

How do I list just the names of matching files?

Use the -l option to list file name whose contents mention main():

```
$ grep -l 'main' *.c
```

Finally, you can force grep to display output in colors:

```
$ grep --color vivek /etc/passwd
```

Pls. send us your feel back.

Rev.1 – David