

1.109.1

Customize and use the shell environment

Weight 5

Linux Professional Institute Certification — 102

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Outline

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0.1 Context

Topic 109 Shells, Scripting, Programming and Compiling [8]

1.109.1 Customise and use the shell environment [5]

1.109.2 Customise or Write Simple Scripts [3]

1 Objective

Description of Objective

Candidate should be able to customize shell environments to meet users' needs. This objective includes setting environment variables (e.g. `PATH`) at login or when spawning a new shell. It also includes writing `bash` functions for frequently used sequences of commands.

Key files, terms, and utilities include:

`~/ .bash_profile` — sourced when a person logs in

`~/ .bash_login` — sourced when a person logs in if no `~/ .bash_profile`

`~/ .profile` —

sourced when a person logs in if no `~/ .bash_profile` or `~/ .bash_login`

`~/ .bashrc` — sourced when a non-login interactive shell starts

`~/ .bash_logout` — sourced when a person logs out

`~/ .inputrc` — allows a user to specify keystrokes for commands

`function` — (Bash built-in command)

`export` — make environment variables available to sub processes

`env` — display environment

`set` — (Bash built-in command)

`unset` — (Bash built-in command) — remove any definition of an environment variable

2 Bash Configuration Files

Bash Configuration Files

- When a user logs in to a `bash` shell the following configuration files are usually executed:

`/etc/profile` System wide profile, common to all users and shells

`~/ .bash_profile` sourced after `/etc/profile` at login

`~/ .bashrc` sourced after `~/ .bash_profile` at login

- Note `~/ .bashrc` is executed when any new `bash` shell is spawned

3 Aliases

Bash Aliases

4 Bash functions

Bash Functions

- Functions work similarly to aliases but allow more complex constructions.
- They have the following syntax:

```
$ [ function ] NAME() { COMMAND_LIST; } ←
```

- Where

function Optional tag

NAME() The name of the function

COMMAND_LIST The body of the function

- Functions may be stored in `~/.bashrc`

Bash Functions

- This simple function prints the current working directory and the list of files in it:

```
$ function look() { pwd; ls; } ←
```

- This function would be used like this:

```
$ look ←
/home/geoffrey/lpic/general-linux-2/notes
CVS      _whizzy_gl2.notes.fmt
        _whizzy_gl2.notes.pag
```

Bash Functions

- `$ function look() { pwd; ls; }`
- `$ function look { pwd; ls; }`
- `$ look() { pwd; ls; }`
- `$ look()`

```
> {
> pwd;
> ls;
> }
```

Bash Functions

- `$ function look() { pwd; ls; }`
- `$ look() { pwd; ls; }`
- `$ function look() {pwd; ls;}`

Bash Functions

- A function that uses a command line argument:

```
$ laps () {↵
> ls -l $1
> ps aux | grep `'/usr/bin/basename $1`
> }
```

- Use the `laps()` function:

```
$ laps /usr/sbin/sshd ←
-rwxr-xr-x  1 root    root      276200 Jun 29 01:28 /usr/sbin/sshd
root      255  0.0  0.3  2792 1216 ?        S    Aug31  0:00 /usr/sbin/sshd
geoffrey 1187  0.0  0.1  1332  424 pts/1    R    14:39  0:00 grep sshd
```

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