

wc (count lines, words and characters)

`wc` is the definitive tool for counting lines, words and characters in a text file. Let me show you a practical example:

```
wc -l /etc/passwd
```

This will output the number of lines in `/etc/passwd`. The option `-w` would display the number of words and `-c` the number of characters. If you don't supply any options, `wc` will provide all three values. The above example is useful because the number of lines in `/etc/passwd` equals the number of users registered in your system.