

15 Practical Examples of 'echo' command in Linux

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echo is one of the most commonly and widely used built-in command for Linux bash and C shells, that typically used in scripting language and batch files to display a line of text/string on standard output or a file.



echo command examples

The syntax for echo is:

```
echo [option(s)] [string(s)]
```

1. Input a line of text and display on standard output

```
$ echo Tecmint is a community of Linux Nerds
```

Outputs the following text:

```
Tecmint is a community of Linux Nerds
```

2. Declare a variable and echo its value. For example, Declare a variable of x and assign its value=10.

```
$ x=10
```

echo its value:

```
$ echo The value of variable x = $x  
The value of variable x = 10
```

Note: The '-e' option in Linux acts as interpretation of escaped characters that are backslashed.

3. Using option '\b' – backspace with backslash interpreter '-e' which removes all the spaces in between.

```
$ echo -e "Tecmint \bis \ba \bcommunity \bof \bLinux \bNerds"  
TecmintisacomunityofLinuxNerds
```

4. Using option '\n' – New line with backspace interpreter '-e' treats new line from where it is used.

```
$ echo -e "Tecmint \nis \na \ncommunity \nof \nLinux \nNerds"  
Tecmint  
is  
a  
community
```

```
of
Linux
Nerds
```

5. Using option '\t' – horizontal tab with backspace interpreter '-e' to have horizontal tab spaces.

```
$ echo -e "Tecmint \tis \ta \tcommunity \tof \tLinux \tNerds"
Tecmint      is      a      community      of
```

6. How about using option new Line '\n' and horizontal tab '\t' simultaneously.

```
$ echo -e "\n\tTecmint \n\tis \n\ta \n\tcommunity \n\tLinux \n\tNerds"
Tecmint
is
a
community
of
Linux
Nerds
```

7. Using option '\v' – vertical tab with backspace interpreter '-e' to have vertical tab spaces.

```
$ echo -e "\vTecmint \vis \va \vcommunity \vof \vLinux \vNerds"
Tecmint
is
a
community
of
Linux
Nerds
```

8. How about using option new Line '\n' and vertical tab '\v' simultaneously.

```
$ echo -e "\n\vTecmint \n\vis \n\va \n\vcommunity \n\vNerds"
Tecmint
```

```
is
a
community
of
Linux
Nerds
```

Note: We can double the vertical tab, horizontal tab and new line spacing using the option two times or as many times as required.

9. Using option '\r' – carriage return with backspace interpretor '-e' to have specified carriage return in output.

```
$ echo -e "Tecmint \ris a community of Linux Nerds"
is a community of Linux Nerds
```

10. Using option '\c' – suppress trailing new line with backspace interpretor '-e' to continue without emitting new line.

```
$ echo -e "Tecmint is a community \cof Linux Nerds"
Tecmint is a community avi@tecmint:~$
```

11. Omit echoing trailing new line using option '-n'.

```
$ echo -n "Tecmint is a community of Linux Nerds"
Tecmint is a community of Linux Nerdsavi@tecmint:~/Docu
```

12. Using option '\a' – alert return with backspace interpretor '-e' to have sound alert.

```
$ echo -e "Tecmint is a community of \aLinux Nerds"
Tecmint is a community of Linux Nerds
```

Note: Make sure to check Volume key, before firing.

13. Print all the files/folder using echo command (ls command alternative).

```
$ echo *  
103.odt 103.pdf 104.odt 104.pdf 105.odt 105.pdf 106.odt
```

14. Print files of a specific kind. For example, let's assume you want to print all '.jpeg' files, use the following command.

```
$ echo *.jpeg  
network.jpeg
```

15. The echo can be used with redirect operator to output to a file and not standard output.

```
$ echo "Test Page" > testpage  
## Check Content  
avi@tecmint:~$ cat testpage  
Test Page
```

echo Options

Options	Description
-n	do not print the trailing newline.
-e	enable interpretation of backslash escapes.
\b	backspace
\\	backslash
\n	new line
\r	carriage return
\t	horizontal tab
\v	vertical tab