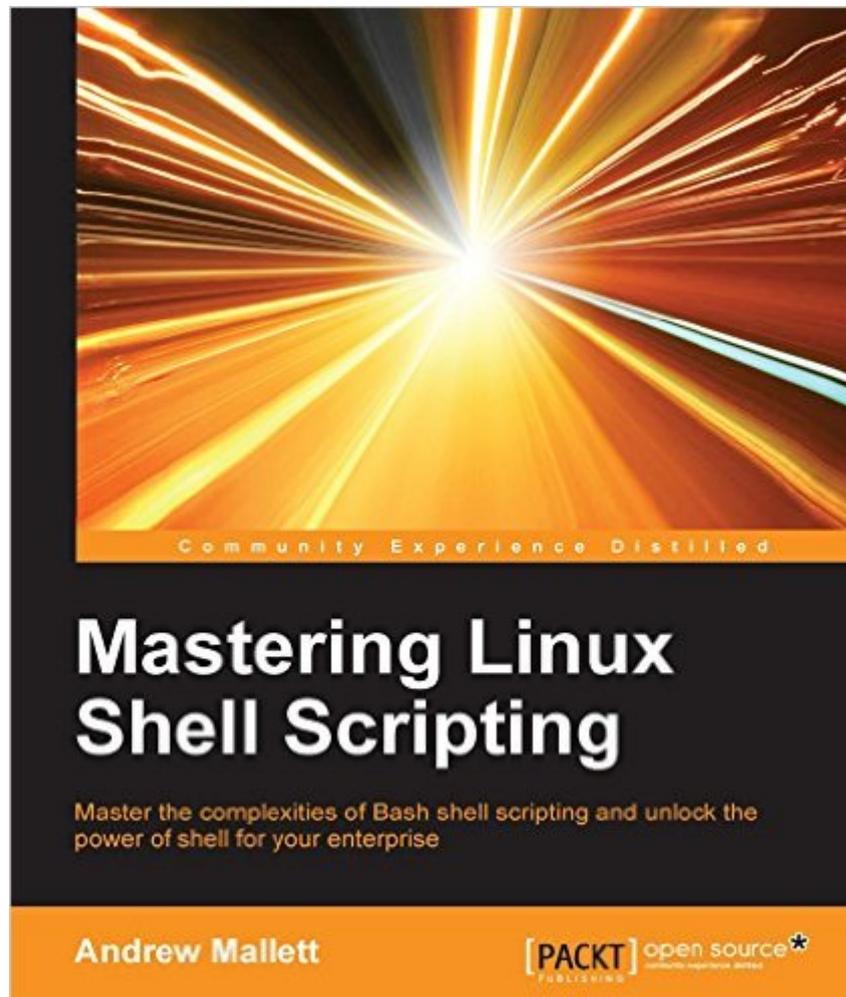


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# Mastering Linux Shell Scripting



## Synopsis

Key Features Identify the high level steps such as verifying user input, using command lines and conditional statements in creating and executing simple shell scripts Create and edit dynamic shell scripts to manage complex and repetitive tasks Learn about scripting in Perl and programming in Python as a BASH scripting alternative with this practical, step-by-step guide

**Book Description** Shell scripting is a quick method to prototype a complex application or a problem by automating tasks when working on Linux-based systems. Using both simple one-line commands and command sequences complex problems can be solved with ease, from text processing to backing up sysadmin tools. In this book, you'll discover everything you need to know to master shell scripting and make informed choices about the elements you employ. Get to grips with the fundamentals of creating and running a script in normal mode, and in debug mode. Learn about various conditional statements' code snippets, and realize the power of repetition and loops in your shell script. Implement functions and edit files using the Stream Editor, script in Perl, program in Python as well as complete coverage of other scripting languages to ensure you can choose the best tool for your project.

**What you will learn** Use the type command to identify the order of command evaluation Create interactive scripts that prompt for user input Foster menu structures for operators with little command-line experience Develop scripts that dynamically edit web configuration files to produce a new virtual host Write scripts that use AWK to search and reports on log files Draft effective scripts using functions as building blocks, reducing maintenance and build time Make informed choices by comparing different script languages such as Perl and Python with BASH

**About the Author** Andrew Mallett is the owner of The Urban Penguin and is a comprehensive provider for professional Linux software development, training, and services. Having always been a command-line fan, he feels that so much time can be saved through knowing command-line shortcuts and scripting. The Urban Penguin YouTube channel, maintained by Andrew, has well over 800 videos to support this and he has authored four other Packt titles.

**Table of Contents** What and Why of Scripting with Bash Creating Interactive Scripts Conditions Attached Creating Code Snippets Alternative Syntax Iterating with Loops Creating Building Blocks with Functions Introducing sed Automating Apache Virtual Hosts Awk Fundamentals Summarizing Logs with Awk A Better lastlog with Awk Using Perl as a Bash Scripting Alternative Using Python as a Bash Scripting Alternative

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Really, really good coverage of bash scripting core fundamentals. Literally one of the best I've read and I've read many of them. I wouldn't go nearly as far as to say complete as some of the other reviews have stated but it definitely does a really good job of getting you started down the road. The only issue I had in the end is the "mastering" part of the title. I don't think any book under 200 pages should claim to provide mastery of a topic, especially one as complex as bash shell scripting, but in the end I decided not to dock it a star because it does such a good job at what it does cover. My preference would be to drop the small sections on Perl and Python. They are topics worthy of their own treatment and the pages could have been put to better use going deeper on shell scripting.

In this book, you'll discover everything you need to know to master shell scripting and make informed choices about the elements you employ. Get to grips with the fundamentals of creating and running a script in normal mode, and in debug mode. Learn about various conditional statements' code snippets, and realize the power of repetition and loops in your shell script. Implement functions and edit files using the Stream Editor, script in Perl, program in Python as well as complete coverage of other scripting languages to ensure you can choose the best tool for

your project.

Almost all you need, and certainly all you need to get you up and running. Gave me the ins and outs of the bash shell as well as pointed me in the right direction with the intro to Perl and Python as additional resources to use when bash shell does allow me to do what I need. I'll have this book as a reference for a very long time when I start building linux embedded devices. I know I'll be turning to this book for references on creating the scripts I need.

I was extremely skeptical at first glance; however after reading this book it truly covers each topic with enough detail to give a clear understanding of the tasks at hand. Doing a lot of automation work with frameworks like Puppet which can benefit from shell scripts, and all I can say is wow.. you really need to pickup a copy of this book as it is well worth the cost.

Great Book and highly recommend.

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