

Shell Script Programs with If – Then – Else Statements

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Adding Comments

When we want to place a comment in a Shell Script, we type the pound sign (#) in front of the phrase or sentence. The first comment usually defines the program to anyone opening and reading the executable file. We can also write copyright information in this area. Comments for each line can be written at the end of the coded expression as shown in the example.

```
# dotw is a program that check the day of the week against the system day  
echo "This program checks the day of the week" # program definition  
echo -n "What is the day of the week? Full name please." # read day  
read day # user prompt  
sdate=$(date +%A) # retrieve the system day  
if [ "$day" = "$sdate" ]  
then  
echo "System date is correct"  
else  
echo "Check system date for error"  
fi # end of program
```


Program another Shell Script

When we are done in the text editor, we can save the file as **dotw.exe** or just **dotw**. If we save the file as **dotw**, we can convert it to an executable file by typing in the Bash command **chmod ugo+x dotw**. To run the program type **sh dotw**. When prompted for the day of the week, we can type Thursday and the answer will return as the system date is correct if your system date matches the day you type.

Write another program. Ask the computer user a question and utilize the if-then-else statement to compare the answer.