

# Shell Script Programs with a For Loop

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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.

```
# days is a program that outputs the days of the week  
for DAYS in Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday  
do  
    echo $DAYS  
done
```

# The For Loop

The For loop begins with the **for** command and then a variable name such as **DAYS**. Then, we write in and the set of strings or numbers that will be assigned to the variable DAYS. In our example, we have the set of words representing the days of the week.

```
# days is a program that outputs the days of the week
for DAYS in Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday
do
    echo $DAYS
done
```

# Running the Loop

Next, we type `do`, followed by an action which is to output the name of the day. After each day of the week is printed to the monitor. The program is done.

```
# days is a program that outputs the days of the week
for DAYS in Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday
do
    echo $DAYS
done
```

When we are done in the text editor, we can save the file as **days.exe** or just **days**. If we save the file as **days**, we can convert it to an executable file by typing in the Bash command **chmod ugo+x days**. To run the program type **sh days**.



# Writing Shell Scripts with Loops

When we are done in the text editor, we can save the file as **days\_months.exe** or just **days\_months**. If we save the file as **days\_months**, we can convert it to an executable file by typing in the Bash command **chmod ugo+x days\_months**. To run the program type **sh days\_months**. When prompted for our choice, we can type D or M and our answer will give us one of the lists.

**Write another program. Ask the computer user a question and utilize the if-then-else statement and the for loop.**