

Assignment 0: Quick Practice in the Shell

eSoc 488: Privacy Technology in Context

Due: Not collected

Total Homework/Assignment Points: 0

omissions List omissions here.
substitutions List substitutions here.
additions List additions here

These little exercises are meant to help you to better understand the shell. No one knows everything about the shell, but coming to know more requires making sure that when you're confused, you work to understand what is going on. Humility, and curiosity! Take your time with these.

If you end up discovering something you find cool while working on this assignment, please consider adding a description of it to a page on the course wiki—others in the class will find it cool as well.

Location in directories

- Open an ssh session on our server. Which directory are you in?
- Change to /var/log, and list all files starting with 's'

Listing

- List exactly the unhidden directories in the current directory, using only ls
- List exactly the names of the hidden directories in the current directory, using only ls
- List all the files in any subdirectory below the current one
- List all the files by time of last modification

Getting out of trouble

- Start vim, then kill it (you may need to log in again, or use tmux)
- Run yes, then get out of it (hint: try ^C)

Searching

- Use find to find the file "search_me"
- Use grep to find all the lines that contain "search me" in the file "search_me"
- Find all the user accounts on our system using cat piped to cut
- Now try to do the same thing with awk (requires learning about awk!)

Viewing files

- Start vim, write your name, save and quit
- Start less, and move to vim from it

Permissions

- Use touch to create a file, then use chmod with octal notation to set permissions to allow anyone to read it, any group member to read or execute it, and you to read, write or execute it
- Set the setuid bit on a file, then unset it

Redirection and pipes

- Perform a find at the root directory, redirecting stderr to ignore all errors
- Repeat the above, but only ignore permissions errors (tricky)
- Use figlet and cowsay to have a cow say something in block letters