# Table of Contents

**About the book** ........................................................................................................... 7  
  About the author ........................................................................................................... 8  
  Sponsors ......................................................................................................................... 9  
  Ebook PDF Generation Tool ......................................................................................... 11  
  Book Cover ................................................................................................................... 12  
  License ......................................................................................................................... 13

**Introduction to Bash scripting** .................................................................................. 14

**Bash Structure** ......................................................................................................... 15

**Bash Hello World** ...................................................................................................... 16

**Bash Variables** .......................................................................................................... 18

**Bash User Input** .......................................................................................................... 21

**Bash Comments** .......................................................................................................... 23

**Bash Arguments** ......................................................................................................... 24

**Bash Arrays** ................................................................................................................ 27

**Bash Conditional Expressions** .................................................................................. 29  
  File expressions .......................................................................................................... 30  
  String expressions ....................................................................................................... 32
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arithmetic operators</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bash Conditionals</strong></td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If statement</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If Else statement</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switch case statements</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conclusion</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bash Loops</strong></td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For loops</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>While loops</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Until Loops</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continue and Break</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bash Functions</strong></td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Debugging, testing and shortcuts</strong></td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Creating custom bash commands</strong></td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Example</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making the change persistent</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listing all of the available aliases</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conclusion</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Write your first Bash script</strong></td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning the script</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing the script</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adding comments</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adding your first variable</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adding your first function</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Adding more functions challenge ........................................ 68
The sample script .............................................................. 69
Conclusion ................................................................. 71

Creating an interactive menu in Bash ......................................... 72
Planning the functionality .................................................... 73
Adding some colors .......................................................... 75

Adding the menu ................................................................ 76
Testing the script .............................................................. 78
Conclusion ................................................................. 82

Executing BASH scripts on Multiple Remote Servers ........... 83
Prerequisites ................................................................ 84
The BASH Script ............................................................ 87
Running the Script on all Servers ........................................ 89
Conclusion ................................................................. 91

Work with JSON in BASH using jq ........................................ 92
Planning the script ............................................................ 93
Installing jq ................................................................ 94
Parsing JSON with jq ........................................................ 96
Getting the first element with jq ........................................... 98
Getting a value only for specific key .................................... 99
Using jq in a BASH script .................................................. 100
Conclusion ................................................................. 103

Working with Cloudflare API with Bash ............................ 104
Prerequisites ................................................................. 105
Challenge - Script requirements .......................................... 106
About the book

• This version was published on Feb 01 2021

This is an open-source introduction to Bash scripting guide that will help you learn the basics of Bash scripting and start writing awesome Bash scripts that will help you automate your daily SysOps, DevOps, and Dev tasks. No matter if you are a DevOps/SysOps engineer, developer, or just a Linux enthusiast, you can use Bash scripts to combine different Linux commands and automate tedious and repetitive daily tasks so that you can focus on more productive and fun things.

The guide is suitable for anyone working as a developer, system administrator, or a DevOps engineer and wants to learn the basics of Bash scripting.

The first 13 chapters would be purely focused on getting some solid Bash scripting foundations, then the rest of the chapters would give you some real-life examples and scripts.
About the author

My name is Bobby Iliev, and I have been working as a Linux DevOps Engineer since 2014. I am an avid Linux lover and supporter of the open-source movement philosophy. I am always doing that which I cannot do in order that I may learn how to do it, and I believe in sharing knowledge.

I think it's essential always to keep professional and surround yourself with good people, work hard, and be nice to everyone. You have to perform at a consistently higher level than others. That's the mark of a true professional.

For more information, please visit my blog at https://bobbyiliev.com, follow me on Twitter @bobbyiliev and YouTube.
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Introduction to Bash scripting

Welcome to this Bash basics training guide! In this bash crash course, you will learn the Bash basics so you could start writing your own Bash scripts and automate your daily tasks.

Bash is a Unix shell and command language. It is widely available on various operating systems, and it is also the default command interpreter on most Linux systems.

Bash stands for Bourne-Again SHell. As with other shells, you can use Bash interactively directly in your terminal, and also, you can use Bash like any other programming language to write scripts. This book will help you learn the basics of Bash scripting including Bash Variables, User Input, Comments, Arguments, Arrays, Conditional Expressions, Conditionals, Loops, Functions, Debugging, and testing.

In order to write Bash scripts, you just need a UNIX terminal and a text editor like Sublime Text, VS Code, or a terminal-based editor like vim or nano.
Bash Structure

Let's start by creating a new file with a `.sh` extension. As an example, we could create a file called `devdojo.sh`.

To create that file, you can use the `touch` command:

```
touch devdojo.sh
```

Or you can use your text editor instead:

```
nano devdojo.sh
```

In order to execute/run a bash script file with the bash shell interpreter, the first line of a script file must indicate the absolute path to the bash executable:

```
#!/bin/bash
```

This is also called a **Shebang**.

All that the shebang does is to instruct the operating system to run the script with the `/bin/bash` executable.
Bash Hello World

Once we have our `devdojo.sh` file created and we've specified the bash shebang on the very first line, we are ready to create our first Hello World bash script.

To do that, open the `devdojo.sh` file again and add the following after the `#!/bin/bash` line:

```
#!/bin/bash

echo "Hello World!"
```

Save the file and exit.

After that make the script executable by running:

```
chmod +x devdojo.sh
```

After that execute the file:

```
./devdojo.sh
```

You will see a "Hello World" message on the screen.

Another way to run the script would be:

```
bash devdojo.sh
```
As bash can be used interactively, you could run the following command directly in your terminal and you would get the same result:

```
echo "Hello DevDojo!"
```

Putting a script together is useful once you have to combine multiple commands together.