

Bash Command Line Arguments

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Bash Command Line Arguments are used to provide input to a bash shell script while executing the script.

In bash shell programming you can provide maximum of nine arguments to a shell script. Inside the shell script you can access the arguments as [bash variables](#) \$1 , \$2 , \$3 ... corresponding to first argument, second argument, third argument etc., respectively. For multiple digit arguments use curly braces as \${21} for 21st argument. But it is recommended that you limit your command line arguments to nine for maintaining compatibility to other shells and avoiding confusion.

Example 1

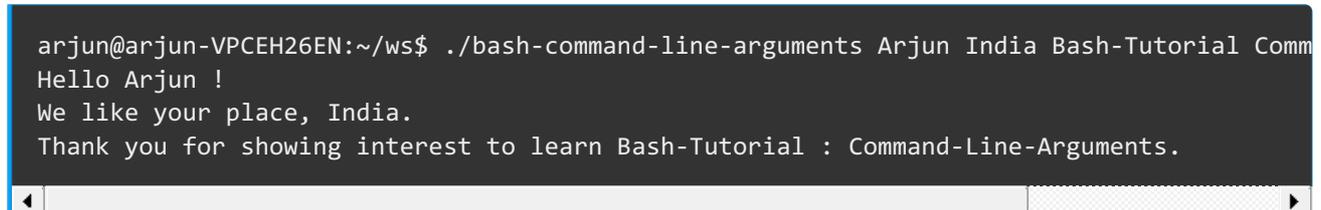
In this example we will read four arguments from command line, and use them in our script.

Bash Script

```
#!/bin/bash

echo "Hello $1 !"
echo "We like your place, $2."
echo "Thank you for showing interest to learn $3 : $4."
```

Output



```
arjun@arjun-VPCEH26EN:~/ws$ ./bash-command-line-arguments Arjun India Bash-Tutorial Comm
Hello Arjun !
We like your place, India.
Thank you for showing interest to learn Bash-Tutorial : Command-Line-Arguments.
```

Note : If you are wondering what \$0 would be, it is the shell script name you provide.

Example 2

Following is a Bash shell script to print total number of command line arguments passed to shell script.

Bash Script

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

```
echo "$# arguments have been passed to this script, $0"
```

Output

```
arjun@arjun-VPCEH26EN:~/ws$ ./bash-command-line-arguments-2 Arjun India Bash-Tutorial Co  
17 arguments have been passed to this script, ./bash-command-line-arguments-2
```

Example 3

In the following example, we will write a bash shell script that uses more than nine arguments.

Curly braces are used like `${nn}` , to access higher arguments (>9)

Bash Script

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

```
echo "13th argument is ${13}"
```

Output

```
arjun@arjun-VPCEH26EN:~/ws$ ./bash-command-line-arguments-3 Bash-Tutorial Command-Line-A  
13th argument is k
```

Conclusion

In this [Bash Tutorial](#) – **Bash Command Line Arguments**, we have learnt to read and use command line arguments inside bash shell scripts.

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