HOW TO USE AWK

Printing a column

awk default delimiter is a space. Meaning that every space is considered a new/different column. The delimiter can be changed with the flag **-F** *character/word*. To identify a column in syntax is with **\$** *number*

Example Syntax: awk '{print \$1}' File

File

Dog Plate 5 Cat Bowl 10 Turtle Fork 40

Output

Dog Cat Turtle

Example Syntax: awk '{print \$3}' File

File

Dog	Plate	5
Cat	Bowl	10
Turtle	Fork	40
Output		

Output

5 10 40

Delimiter Example Syntax: awk -F , '{print \$2}' File

File

Dog,Plate,5 Cat,Bowl,10 Turle,Fork,40

Output

Plate Bowl Fork

Delimiter Example Syntax 2: awk -F h '{print \$1}] hawk

hawk

I love hawks. The reason is because they are cool birds. Nothing else, but banana bread on the other hand

Output

I love

Delimiter Example Syntax 3: awk -F h '{print \$2}] hawk

I love hawks. The reason is because they are cool birds. Nothing else, but banana bread on the other hand

Output

awks. T

Delimiter Example Syntax 4: awk -F h '{print \$3}] hawk

I love hawks. The reason is because they are cool birds. Nothing else, but banana bread on the other hand

Output

e reason is because t

Last Column Example Syntax: awk '{print \$NF}' File

File

Dog Plate 5 Banana High Cat Bowl 10 Bread Middle Turtle Fork 40 Cake Low

Output

High Middle Low

Printing Multiple Columns

To print multiple columns just add more columns to the print statement

Example Syntax: awk '{print \$1\$2}' File

File

Dog Plate 5 Cat Bowl 10 Turtle Fork 40

Output

DogPlate CatBowl TurtleFork If you want to have a space when printing mutiple columns, between column identifier add ","

Example Syntax: awk '{print \$3,\$1}' File

File

Dog Plate 5 Cat Bowl 10 Turtle Fork 40 Output

5 Plate 10 Bowl 40 Fork

Basic Functions

AWK is able to computer addition (+), subtraction (-), division (/), multiplication (*), etc. These functions can be chained together

Function Example Syntax: awk '{print 1 + 1}'

You may have to hit enter a few times to get results because there is no input file

Output

2

Functions and Columns

To mathematically add columns together just add column identifier to the function

Example Syntax: awk '{print \$1 + \$2}' mathTest

mathTest

1 10

2 31

12

Chaining Example Syntax: awk '{print ((\$1 * \$3) + \$2)}' mathTest

mathTest

Example with Constant Syntax: awk '{print \$2 / 10}' mathTest

Takes values from column 2 and then divides them by 10 and prints the results

mathTest

2 4.2 2.3 3.2

+=

The function **+=** is to add every single row in a column to a grand total

Example Syntax: awk '{*variable*+= \$2} END {print *variable*} bankAccount

Take the second column and add its rows to variable. **END** stops the += function

bankAccount

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