

RE: Send output to file & printer

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Debian/2004-01/5540.html>

From: Ben Yau (byau_at_cardcommerce.com)

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To: "debian users" <debian-user@lists.debian.org>

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Jim says:

>

> *As an example, if I issue a command like "ls -laF" on a directory, can I*

> *have the output of that command go to a file (filename =*

> *username_date_time.txt), and print on a remote printer at the*

> *same time, or*

> *do I have to run two commands?*

>

There are a lot of strange ways to get this one done. The easiest way is to do it in two commands. However, you can put both commands on the same command line though

```
prompt# [first command] > output.txt; [print command] output.txt
```

If you want a wrapper script, try this one. Be warned there are not a lot of sanity checks in this so use at your own risk (and test the syntax also). Let's say you save the script to "printarchive". Then usage would be something like

```
prompt# printarchive ls -laF
```

here's the script

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

```
#
```

```
# what's our print command?
```

```
prtcmd="lpr -Php4050"
```

```
# where do we store the outputted files?
```

```
outputdir="/tmp"
```

```
# define our output file as "printjob.datetime.processid.txt"
```

```
datesuffix=`date +%Y%m%d_%H%M%S`
```

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```
pidstuffix=$$
```

```
# let user know where the outputfile to STDOUT  
outfile="$outputdir/printjob_$$datesuffix.$$txt"  
echo "OUTPUT to $outfile"
```

```
# run command and save to file  
$* > $outfile
```

```
# output file to screen first and then confirm we want to print it  
cat $outfile
```

```
# confirm print  
echo ""  
echo -n "Hit <ENTER> to print, ctrl-c to interrupt and cancel"  
read userinput
```

```
# now print the file  
$prtcmd $outfile
```

```
# done  
echo "done, output printing via $prtcmd $outfile"
```

```
--
```

```
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```