

Re: Inserting Text In Specific Location Using Shell Script

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/RedHat/2006-05/msg00347.html>

- *From:* Wayne Betts <wbetts@xxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 26 May 2006 16:31:02 -0400
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Cesar Covarrubias wrote:

Hello,

I am running a script on about 30 machines and need to insert text after a specific comment. For example:

```
#comment 1
```

```
#comment 2
```

```
#comment 3
```

I want to add text after #comment 2, on a new line. I have been trying to work with both sed and awk but no success. This has to be done in bash or sh and cannot be done in any other language. Any ideas?

Here's an example I think would work. It doesn't require much as far as the formatting of the files, other than the form of "#comment 2" which could be generalized with some regexp magic, but it sounds like you might not need anything so fancy:

Some prerequisites:

a file that contains the text to be inserted (eg. /path/to/insertme.txt)

the file in which the text is to be inserted (eg. /path/to/original.txt)

```
#!/bin/sh
```

```
insertme="/path/to/insertme.txt"
```

```
original="/path/to/original.txt"
```

```
export INSERT=$insertme export ORIGINAL=$original
```

```
cat $original | gawk '{print $0; if ($0 == "#comment 2") system("cat $INSERT >> $ORIGINAL.mod");}' >>
```

```
$original.mod
```

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This should produce the file /path/to/original.txt.mod, which you could then mv to original.txt, overwriting the original if desired.

(Sorry, I haven't tested this so I may have missed a quote mark or something, but that should be close.)

HTH,

– Wayne

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