

## Re: Grep For Line Containing 1or 2 Words

**Source:** <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.os.linux.misc/2005-01/3121.html>

---

**From:** drwxr-xr-x (*bit-bucket\_at\_config.com*)

**Date:** 01/30/05

Date: 30 Jan 2005 00:07:58 GMT

On Tue, 25 Jan 2005 22:40:59 GMT, noi wrote:

> *On Tue, 25 Jan 2005 16:47:23 -0500, Buck Turgidson thoughtfully wrote:*

>

>> *Looking for help in writing a grep (or perl) that will pull from a text*

>> *file those lines containing one or two "words". I want to reject any line*

>> *that contains more than 2 words (a sentence).*

>>

>> *Appreciate any help from text processing experts.*

>

> *Would this work for you? (Assumed text file)*

> *\$ cat file | grep -v --regexp=" " > nospaces*

No, it would not.

```
$ cat text.tmp
aertyu
bdfgh tyui
cdfghj cvbn dfghjkl
dwert uiop mnbn hgfd
$ grep -v --regexp=" " > text.new < text.tmp
$ cat text.new
aertyu
$
```

... and, where's that guy handing out this week's UUOCA?