

Customizing the Shell Prompt

What You Will Learn

- Shell prompt customization

Customizing the Shell Prompt

- Use an environment variable to customize.
- Bash, ksh, and sh use `$PS1`.
- Csh, tcsh, and zsh use `$prompt`.

Customizing the Prompt with PS1

`\d` Date in "Weekday Month Date" format
"Tue May 26"

`\h` Hostname up to the first period

`\H` Hostname

`\n` Newline

`\t` Current time in 24-hour HH:MM:SS format

`\T` Current time in 12-hour HH:MM:SS format

Customizing the Prompt with PS1

- \@ Current time in 12-hour am/pm format
- \A Current time in 24-hour HH:MM format
- \u Username of the current user
- \w Current working directory
- \W Basename of the current working directory
- \\$ if the effective UID is 0, a #, otherwise a \$

Persist PS1 Changes

```
$ echo 'export PS1="[ \u@\h \w]\$ "' >> ~/.bash_profile
```

Summary

- An environment variable customizes the prompt.
- To persist changes, set the environment variable in your dot files.