

Sed

editing, editor, regex, text

GNU/sed

Case transformation

GNU/sed has got the functionality to transform upper-case letters to lower-case letters and vice-versa. Such a transformation can be applied to single letters, or from a start point to an end point.

```
echo bee | \  
sed 's/\([a-z]\)/\u\1/'
```

Bee

In the example above you see that the first letter matched by the character class '[a-z]' was 'b' and got translated to its upper-case counterpart 'B' by \u. The translation from upper-case to lower-case works the same way but instead with \l.

The translation of the first letter of every word to upper-case could be done with

```
echo 'hi this is the sed way of case transformation' | \  
sed 's/\b\([a-z]\)/\u\1/g'
```

Hi This Is The Sed Way Of Case Transformation

Another way is to define a start point and an end point. To start a continuous transformation to upper-case you have to use \U instead of \u as start point. It ends at the \E or at the \L which would start a transformation to lower-case from that point.

```
echo 'hi this is the sed way of case transformation' | \  
sed 's/^\([^\t]\+\)\([^\s]\+\)(.*)/\1\U\2\E\3/'
```

hi THIS is the sed way of case transformation

Substitution

N-th occurrence

To substitute the second occurrence of 'e' with '3'

```
$ echo 'hey there' | sed 's/e/3/2'  
hey th3re
```

Substitute every 'e' with '3' but first

```
$ echo 'hey there' | sed 's/e/3/2g'  
hey th3r3
```

To substitute the third 'e' with '3'

```
$ echo 'hey there' | sed 's/e/3/3'  
hey ther3
```

Snippets

Extract text from .docx documents

```
unzip -p file.docx word/document.xml | \  
sed -e 's/<\w:p>\n/g; s/<[^>]\{1,\}>/g; s/^[[:print:]]\n\{1,\}/g'
```

[CommandlineFU](#)

Join every line in file to single line

```
sed ':a; N; s/\n/ /; ta' <file>
```

1. :a puts a label.
2. N appends the next line into pattern space (which contains the current line)
3. s/\n/ / substitutes the newline character with a space character
4. ta jumps to label a if it's previous command ends successfully

<https://askubuntu.com/questions/164056/how-do-i-combine-all-lines-in-a-text-file-into-a-single-line/996766#996766>

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