

Scripting With PERL

“There’s More Than One Way To Do It”

Introduction

While the Unix shell can be programmed, it has its limitations. PERL (Practical Extraction and Report Language) is a far more powerful tool for many of the tasks that a System Administrator must perform.

In this session, you will use a PERL script to produce a nicely formatted report of the rpm-managed packages installed on your system.

See Also

basename (1), dirname (1), perl (1), chmod (1), mkdir (1), less (1)

p. 360, *Frisch*

Setting Up

You do not need to be root for this exercise.

Create a new directory under your home directory for this exercise. Call the directory rrpm:

```
% mkdir ~/rrpm; cd ~/rrpm
```

The Script

Type the following script into a file called rrpm in the project subdirectory:

```
#!/usr/bin/perl -w

foreach $p ( @ARGV )
{
    $p =~ s/\n$//;
    printf ("\n$p (%d)\n", `rpm -q --queryformat "%{SIZE}" $p`);
    %entries = ();
    @files = `rpm -ql $p`;
    foreach $file ( @files )
    {
        $name = `basename $file`; chop $name;
        $dir = `dirname $file`; chop $dir;
        push (@{$entries{$dir}}, $name);
    }

    foreach $f ( keys %entries )
    {
        $size = 0;
        @l = ();
        foreach $i ( 0 .. ${#{$entries{$f}}} )
        {
            $size += -s "$f/$entries{$f}[$i]";
            push (@l, $entries{$f}[$i]);
        }
        printf ("\t$f ($size): @l\n");
    }
}
```

Ensure that the script you created has execute permissions:

```
% chmod 755 ./rrpm
```

Running The Script

The following sequence (which analyses the information related to bash) should show you how to run the script and view the results:

```
% ./rrpm `rpm -q bash` | head -1`
```