

tr is an UNIX utility for translating, or deleting, or squeezing repeated characters. It will read from STDIN and write to STDOUT.

tr stands for translate.

Syntax

The syntax of tr command is:

```
$ tr [OPTION] SET1 [SET2]
```

Translation

If both the SET1 and SET2 are specified and '-d' OPTION is not specified, then tr command will replace each characters in SET1 with each character in same position in SET2.

1. Convert lower case to upper case

The following tr command is used to convert the lower case to upper case

```
$ tr abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ  
  
thegeekstuff  
  
THEGEEKSTUFF
```

The following command will also convert lower case to upper case

```
$ tr [:lower:] [:upper:]  
  
thegeekstuff  
  
THEGEEKSTUFF
```

You can also use ranges in tr. The following command uses ranges to convert lower to upper case.

```
$ tr a-z A-Z
```

```
thegeekstuff
```

```
THEGEEKSTUFF
```

2. Translate braces into parenthesis

You can also translate from and to a file. In this example we will translate braces in a file with parenthesis.

```
$ tr '{}' '()' < inputfile > outputfile
```

The above command will read each character from “inputfile”, translate if it is a brace, and write the output in “outputfile”.