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# **Powerful Unix-Tools - cat, head, tail, less**

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## cat - command

- Purpose:

`concatenate files and print them on standard output.`

- Examples:

- concatenate file a.txt and b.txt and write result to STDOUT

```
cat a.txt b.txt
```

- Concatenate all files in the given directories and prints them to STDOUT

```
cat d:/data/bbc/*/*.txt
```

- Add line numbers to file porter.cpp and prints it to STDOUT

```
cat -n porter.cpp
```

# head command

- Purpose:  
Output the first part of a file.
- Examples:
  - View first 20 lines of file stopwords.txt  
`head -n20 stopwords.txt`
  - View all, but the last 20 lines of file stopwords.txt (remove trailers)  
`head -n -20 stopwords.txt`

# tail command

- Purpose:  
Output the last part of a file.
- Examples:
  - View last 10 lines of file *stopwords.txt*  
`tail -n10 stopwords.txt`
  - Print the content of file *stopwords.txt*, starting from line 20 (remove headers)  
`tail -n +20 stopwords.txt`

## less - command

- Purpose:  
`tool for paging through a file. Also supports forward/backward search and filtering.`
- Examples:
  - View file *a.txt* - (see *man less* for commands)  
`less a.txt`
  - View file *stopwords.txt* with line numbers  
`less -N stopwords.txt`