

Find And Replace Strings

Imagine you have a directory with thousands of text files, each of which containing some keywords to be replaced.

While there's a lot of tools out there allowing you to find and replace strings in text files, there's always a good reason to use the tools that you already have.

The following snippet uses `find` in combination with `perl` to achieve the task:

```
#find /my/path -type f -exec perl -i -p -e 's/search/replace/g;' {} ;
```

This command line instructs to find all files within `/my/path`, passing them to `perl`, which is instructed to find and replace given strings instantly.

Remember however that this is not binary safe so you should run this only on directories containing text files.

To get additional verbosity add the `-print` flag to `find`'s command line to see which files are being worked on.

If you pass an optional extension to `-i` (eg. `-i.bak`) `perl` is instructed to create a backup by the same filename plus extension.

As always: `man find` and `man perl` are your friends.

Enjoy!