

Fundamentals of UNIX
Lab 4.1.4 – Using CDE Help
(Estimated time: 30 min.)

Objectives:

- Become familiar with CDE Help functions
- Use the Help Viewer
- Search the Help Index for specific topics
- Get help on desktop icons with On-Item Help
- Investigate other ways to get help.

Background:

In this lab, you will work with several Help functions built in to the CDE to assist users when performing CDE related tasks. You will use the main CDE help viewer and search the Help index for help on specific topics. You will also use the On Item help feature to discover what desktop icons are.

Tools / Preparation:

- a) Before starting this lab, review Chapter 3, Section 2 – Using Calendar Manager
- b) You will need the following:
 1. A login user ID (e.g. user2) and password assigned to you by your instructor.
 2. A computer running the UNIX operating system with CDE.
 3. Help installed.
 3. Networked computers in classroom.

Web Site Resources:

- [Sun Microsystems](http://www.sun.com/solaris) – <http://www.sun.com/solaris>

Notes:

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Perform the following steps to complete this lab.

Step 1. Log in to CDE

Login with the user name and password assigned to you by your instructor in the CDE entry box.

Step 2 Investigate the CDE Help Subpanel

The help subpanel is the common starting point for all types of graphical help available. It has a number of help options including CDE help. Click on the Help subpanel and list the options available:

Step 2. Access and Use the Help Viewer

Click on the **Help** icon on the **Front panel** or click on **Help Manager** from the **Help subpanel** to bring up the help viewer window. The **Help Viewer** is a graphical interface for scanning online CDE-related help. The hypertext links, shown as underlined text or boxed graphics, can be used to quickly move to a related help page by clicking on the appropriate area of text in the Help window. The **Backtrack** button at the top right of the screen allows you to retrace the path you followed through the help screens. The Print button can be used to print a copy of a particular help topic.

When you first open the help viewer, two hyperlinks are available: Common Desktop Environment and **Overview and Basic Desktop Skills**. Click on the 2nd hyperlink, and then click on the Introducing the Desktop link. Under the heading 'Choose one of the following topics:' how many options are available and what are they?

Option Number	Description
1	
2	
3	
4	

Step 3. Search the Help Index

The Index Search enables you to search all volumes of help. To access the **Help Index**, click on the **Index** button while in the **Help Viewer** window. You can search for specific help items based on a keyword search. The number to the left of the help index item is the number of subtopics available. Search **All Volumes** for help with the word **printer** in them. How many entries did you find?

_____ Which entry has the most subtopics? _____

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Step 4. Use On-Item Help

The **On-Item Help** icon is on the **Help** subpanel. When this function is selected, the mouse pointer will change from an arrow pointer to a **question mark** with an arrowhead at its base. The pointer can then be positioned over a Front Panel icon to access the appropriate help page for that item, which will be displayed in a Help Viewer window. The mouse pointer will revert back to an arrow pointer once the help viewer opens. The On-Item Help function will only work with icons on or within the Application Manager windows.

Click on the **On-Item Help** icon from the **Help** subpanel. Move the question mark cursor over the **world** icon in the Front Panel and click. What did On-item help say about the world icon?

Step 5. Other Ways to Access Help

Right clicking in any free space on the desktop will display the **Workspace** menu. From the Workspace menu, you can select the **Help** option from the submenu. This is another method for invoking the **Help Viewer** displayed by clicking on the **Front Panel Help** icon. Once the Help Viewer has been invoked, you can use it as described previously. Most windows also have a Help menu option specific to the current application.

- a. Right click on the workspace and select Help from the Menu. What options are available?
- b. Click on the Calendar icon on the Front panel to start the Calendar Manager. Click on the Help menu option in the upper right corner of the window. What options are available?

Step 6. Close All Open Windows/Applications that are on Your Desktop