

## Shell: substring

the first 2 chars from a `${long}` string:

```
short=$(echo "${long}" | cut -c1-2)
short=$(echo "${long}" | head -c2)
short=$(echo "${long}" | awk '{print substr ($0, 0, 2)}')
short=$(echo "${long}" | sed 's/^\(...\).*$/\1/')
```

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