

# Using Lint to clean up your code

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If your code compiles, but doesn't run as well as you expected, try using "lint" to help you clean up your code. Lint, according to its manual page:

*Lint attempts to detect features of the C program files which are likely to be bugs, or non-portable, or wasteful. It also checks the type usage of the program more strictly than the compilers. Among the things which are currently found are unreachable statements, loops not entered at the top, automatic variables declared and not used, and logical expressions whose value is constant. Moreover, the usage of functions is checked to find functions which return values in some places and not in others, functions called with varying numbers of arguments, and functions whose values are not used or whose values are used but none returned.*

To use lint, type:

```
joeuser@athena:~$ add sunsoft; lint file.c
```

Note: Be sure to fill in the correct information for *file.c*.

Many of the things lint warns about can also be found by using the `-pedantic` option to `gcc`.