

# The redirection operator can occur in the middle of the command line

 [devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20060518-07](http://devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20060518-07)

May 18, 2006



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Although the redirection operator traditionally appears at the end of a command line, there is no requirement that it do so. All of these commands are equivalent:

```
echo A B>C
echo A>C B
echo>C A B
>C echo A B
```

All of them echo “A B” to the file “C”.

You can use this trick to avoid [the redirection problem we discussed last time](#). We saw that writing

```
set message=Meet at 2
echo %message%>schedule
```

inadvertently interprets the “2” as part of the redirection operator. One solution was to insert a space:

```
echo %message% >schedule
```

but this assumes that the space won’t cause a problem. If you’re in a case where that space will indeed cause a problem, you can use the trick above to move the redirection operator to a location where it won’t cause any trouble:

```
>schedule echo %message%
```

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