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9.3.1 Event Designators

An event designator is a reference to a command line entry in the history list. Unless the reference is absolute, events are relative to the current position in the history list.

!

Start a history substitution, except when followed by a space, tab, the end of the line, '=' or '(' (when the `extglob` shell option is enabled using the `shopt` builtin).

!*n*

Refer to command line *n*.

!*-n*

Refer to the command *n* lines back.

!!

Refer to the previous command. This is a synonym for '!-1'.

!*string*

Refer to the most recent command preceding the current position in the history list starting with *string*.

!*?string[?]*

Refer to the most recent command preceding the current position in the history list containing *string*. The trailing '?' may be omitted if the *string* is followed immediately by a newline.

^*string1*^*string2*^

Quick Substitution. Repeat the last command, replacing *string1* with *string2*. Equivalent to `!!:s/string1/string2/`.

!#

The entire command line typed so far.