

## a

**apropos** Search Help manual pages (man -k)  
**apt-get** Search for and install software packages (Debian)  
**aptitude** Search for and install software packages (Debian)  
**aspell** Spell Checker  
**awk** Find and Replace text, database sort/validate/index  
**b**  
**basename** Strip directory and suffix from filenames  
**bash** GNU Bourne-Again SHell  
**bc** Arbitrary precision calculator language  
**bg** Send to background  
**break** Exit from a loop  
**builtin** Run a shell builtin  
**bzip2** Compress or decompress named file(s)  
**c**  
**cal** Display a calendar  
**case** Conditionally perform a command  
**cat** Concatenate and print (display) the content of files  
**cd** Change Directory  
**cfdisk** Partition table manipulator for Linux  
**chgrp** Change group ownership  
**chmod** Change access permissions  
**chown** Change file owner and group  
**chroot** Run a command with a different root directory  
**chkconfig** System services (runlevel)  
**cksum** Print CRC checksum and byte counts  
**clear** Clear terminal screen  
**cmp** Compare two files  
**comm** Compare two sorted files line by line  
**command** Run a command – ignoring shell functions  
**continue** Resume the next iteration of a loop  
**cp** Copy one or more files to another location  
**cron** Daemon to execute scheduled commands  
**crontab** Schedule a command to run at a later time

**csplit** Split a file into context-determined pieces  
**cut** Divide a file into several parts  
**d**  
**date** Display or change the date & time  
**dc** Desk Calculator  
**dd** Convert and copy a file, write disk headers, boot records  
**ddrescue** Data recovery tool  
**declare** Declare variables and give them attributes  
**df** Display free disk space  
**diff** Display the differences between two files  
**diff3** Show differences among three files  
**dig** DNS lookup  
**dir** Briefly list directory contents  
**dircolors** Colour setup for `ls`  
**dirname** Convert a full pathname to just a path  
**dirs** Display list of remembered directories  
**dmesg** Print kernel & driver messages  
**du** Estimate file space usage  
**e**  
**echo** Display message on screen  
**egrep** Search file(s) for lines that match an extended expression  
**eject** Eject removable media  
**enable** Enable and disable builtin shell commands  
**env** Environment variables  
**ethtool** Ethernet card settings  
**eval** Evaluate several commands/arguments  
**exec** Execute a command  
**exit** Exit the shell  
**expect** Automate arbitrary applications accessed over a terminal  
**expand** Convert tabs to spaces  
**export** Set an environment variable  
**expr** Evaluate expressions  
**f**  
**false** Do nothing, unsuccessfully  
**fdformat** Low-level format a floppy disk  
**fdisk** Partition table manipulator for Linux  
**fg** Send job to foreground

**fgrep** Search file(s) for lines that match a fixed string  
**file** Determine file type  
**find** Search for files that meet a desired criteria  
**fmt** Reformat paragraph text  
**fold** Wrap text to fit a specified width.  
**for** Expand words, and execute commands  
**format** Format disks or tapes  
**free** Display memory usage  
**fsck** File system consistency check and repair  
**ftp** File Transfer Protocol  
**function** Define Function Macros  
**fuser** Identify/kill the process that is accessing a file  
**g**  
**gawk** Find and Replace text within file(s)  
**getopts** Parse positional parameters  
**grep** Search file(s) for lines that match a given pattern  
**groupadd** Add a user security group  
**groupdel** Delete a group  
**groupmod** Modify a group  
**groups** Print group names a user is in  
**gzip** Compress or decompress named file(s)  
**h**  
**hash** Remember the full pathname of a name argument  
**head** Output the first part of file(s)  
**help** Display help for a built-in command  
**history** Command History  
**hostname** Print or set system name  
**i**  
**iconv** Convert the character set of a file  
**id** Print user and group id's  
**if** Conditionally perform a command  
**ifconfig** Configure a network interface  
**ifdown** Stop a network interface  
**ifup** Start a network interface up  
**import** Capture an X server screen and save the image to file  
**install** Copy files and set attributes

## j

**jobs** List active jobs

**join** Join lines on a common field

## k

**kill** Stop a process from running

**killall** Kill processes by name

## l

**less** Display output one screen at a time

**let** Perform arithmetic on shell variables

**ln** Create a symbolic link to a file

**local** Create variables

**locate** Find files

**logname** Print current login name

**logout** Exit a login shell

**look** Display lines beginning with a given string

**lpc** Line printer control program

**lpr** Off line print

**lprint** Print a file

**lprntd** Abort a print job

**lprntq** List the print queue

**lprm** Remove jobs from the print queue

**ls** List information about file(s)

**lsuf** List open files

## m

**make** Recompile a group of programs

**man** Help manual

**mkdir** Create new folder(s)

**mkfifo** Make FIFOs (named pipes)

**mkisofs** Create an hybrid

ISO9660/JOLIET/HFS filesystem

**mknod** Make block or character special files

**more** Display output one screen at a time

**mount** Mount a file system

**mttools** Manipulate MS-DOS files

**mtr** Network diagnostics (traceroute/ping)

**mv** Move or rename files or directories

**mmv** Mass Move and rename (files)

## n

**netstat** Networking information

**nice** Set the priority of a command or job

**nl** Number lines and write files

**nohup** Run a command immune to hangups

**notify-send** Send desktop notifications

**nslookup** Query Internet name servers interactively

## o

**open** Open a file in its default application

**op** Operator access

## p

**passwd** Modify a user password

**paste** Merge lines of files

**pathchk** Check file name portability

**ping** Test a network connection

**pkill** Stop processes from running

**popd** Restore the previous value of the current directory

**pr** Prepare files for printing

**printcap** Printer capability database

**printenv** Print environment variables

**printf** Format and print data

**ps** Process status

**pushd** Save and then change the current directory

**pwd** Print Working Directory

## q

**quota** Display disk usage and limits

**quotacheck** Scan a file system for disk usage

**quotactl** Set disk quotas

## r

**ram** ram disk device

**rcp** Copy files between two machines

**read** Read a line from standard input

**readarray** Read from stdin into an array variable

**readonly** Mark variables/functions as readonly

**reboot** Reboot the system

**rename** Rename files

**renice** Alter priority of running processes

**remsync** Synchronize remote files via email

**return** Exit a shell function

**rev** Reverse lines of a file

**rm** Remove files

**rmdir** Remove folder(s)

**rsync** Remote file copy (Synchronize file trees)

## s

**screen** Multiplex terminal, run remote shells via ssh

**scp** Secure copy (remote file copy)

**sdiff** Merge two files interactively

**sed** Stream Editor

**select** Accept keyboard input

**seq** Print numeric sequences

**set** Manipulate shell variables and functions

**sftp** Secure File Transfer Program

**shift** Shift positional parameters

**shopt** Shell Options

**shutdown** Shutdown or restart linux

**sleep** Delay for a specified time

**slocate** Find files

**sort** Sort text files

**source** Run commands from a file `.'

**split** Split a file into fixed-size pieces

**ssh** Secure Shell client (remote login program)

**strace** Trace system calls and signals

**su** Substitute user identity

**sudo** Execute a command as another user

**sum** Print a checksum for a file

**suspend** Suspend execution of this shell

**symlink** Make a new name for a file

**sync** Synchronize data on disk with memory

## t

**tail** Output the last part of file

**tar** Tape ARchiver

**tee** Redirect output to multiple files

**test** Evaluate a conditional expression

**time** Measure Program running time

**times** User and system times

**touch** Change file timestamps

**top** List processes running on the system

**traceroute** Trace Route to Host

**trap** Run a command when a signal is set(bourne)

**tr** Translate, squeeze, and/or delete characters

**true** Do nothing, successfully

**tsort** Topological sort

**tty** Print filename of terminal on stdin

**type** Describe a command

## u

**ulimit** Limit user resources

**umask** Users file creation mask

**umount** Unmount a device

**unalias** Remove an alias  
**uname** Print system information  
**unexpand** Convert spaces to tabs  
**uniq** Uniquify files  
**units** Convert units from one scale to another  
**unset** Remove variable or function names  
**unshar** Unpack shell archive scripts  
**until** Execute commands (until error)  
**uptime** Show uptime  
**useradd** Create new user account  
**userdel** Delete a user account  
**usermod** Modify user account  
**users** List users currently logged in  
**uuencode** Encode a binary file  
**uudecode** Decode a file created by uuencode

**v**  
**v** Verbosely list directory contents (`ls -l -b`)  
**vdir** Verbosely list directory contents (`ls -l -b`)  
**vi** Text Editor  
**vmstat** Report virtual memory statistics  
**w**  
**wait** Wait for a process to complete  
**watch** Execute/display a program periodically  
**wc** Print byte, word, and line counts  
**whereis** Search the user's \$path, man pages and source files for a program  
**which** Search the user's \$path for a program file  
**while** Execute commands  
**who** Print all usernames currently logged in

**whoami** Print the current user id and name (`id -un`)  
**wget** Retrieve web pages or files via HTTP, HTTPS or FTP  
**write** Send a message to another user  
**x**  
**xargs** Execute utility, passing constructed argument list(s)  
**xdg-open** Open a file or URL in the user's preferred application.  
**y**  
**yes** Print a string until interrupted