Basic Linux Commands

Command Description

hostnamectl Get system information including, operating system, kernel, and release version

date Display the current system date and time

hostname Display the hostname of the system

ifconfig Display the IP and Mac Address of the system

w Display currently logged in users in the system

top Display all running processes

List all files and directories in the current working directory

s -al List all files and directories including, hidden files and other information like

permissions, size, and owner

cd Change the directory to the home directory

cd .. Change the directory to one level up

cat filename Display the content of the file

cat file1 file2 > Combine two files named file1 and file2 and store the output in a new file file3

file3

tail filename Display the last 10 lines of a file

head filename Display the first 10 lines of a file

mv oldfile newfile Rename a file

rm filename Delete a file

mkdir dirname Create a directory

Command Description

rm -rf dirname Remove a directory

history Print a history list of all commands

clear the terminal

shutdown -h now Shut down the system

reboot Restart the system

ping host-ip Check connectivity between two hosts

File Permission Commands

Command Description

ls -I filename Check the current permission of any file

chmod 777 filename Assign full(read, write, and execute) permission to everyone

chmod -R 777 dirname Assign full permission to the directory and all sub-directories

chmod 766 filename Assign full permission to the owner, and read and write permission to group

and others

chmod -x filename Remove the execution permission of any file

chown username filename Change the ownership of a file

chown user:group Change the owner and group ownership of a file filename

chown -R user:group Change the owner and group ownership of the directory and all sub-

dirname directories

User and Group Management Commands

Command Description

w Display all login users

useradd username Add a new user account

userdel -r username Delete a user account

shell, expiration date

usermod -aG groupname

username

Add a user to a specific group

groupadd groupname Create a new group

groupdel groupname Remove a group

last Display information of the last login user

id Display UID and GID of the current user

Process Management Commands

When you run any application in Linux. The application will get a process ID or PID. Process Management helps you to monitor and manage your application.

Command	Description
ps	Display all active processes
ps -ef grep processname	Display information of specific process
top	Manage and display all processes in realtime
pstree	Display processes in the tree-like diagram

Command Description

lsof List all files opened by running processes

kill pid Kill a specific process using process ID

killall processname Kill all processes by name

bg Display stopped or background jobs

pidof processname Get the PID of any process

Disk Management Commands

mount /dev/sda1 /mnt Mount any partition to any directory

Package Management Command

In this section, we will show a list of all commands to install, remove and manage packages in Linux.

Command	Description
apt-get install packagename	Install the package on Debian based distributions
apt-get remove packagename	Remove a package on Debian based distributions
dpkg -l grep -i installed	Get a list of all packages on Debian based distributions
dpkg -i packagename.deb	Install .deb package
apt-get update	Update the repository on Debian based distributions
apt-get upgrade packagename	Upgrade a specific package on Debian based distributions

Command	Description
apt-get autoremove	Remove all unwanted packages on Debian based distributions
yum install packagename	Install the package on RPM-based distributions
yum remove packagename	Remove a package on RPM-based distributions
yum update	Update all system packages to the latest version on RPM-based distributions
yum listinstalled	List all installed packages on RPM-based distributions
yum listavailable	List all available packages on RPM-based distributions

Compress and Uncompress Commands

Tar, Zip, and Unzip are the most popular command-line utility in Linux used to compress and uncompress files and directories.

Command	Description
tar -cvf filename.tar filename	Compress a file in the Tar archive
tar -xvf filename.tar	Uncompress a Tar file
tar -tvf filename.tar	List the content of the Tar file
tar -xvf filename.tar file1.txt	Untar a single file from Tar file
tar -rvf filename.tar file2.txt	Add a file to the Tar file
zip filename.zip filename	Compress a single file to a zip
zip filename.zip file1.txt file2.txt file3.txt	Compress multiple files to a zip
zip -u filename.zip file4.txt	Add a file to a zip file
zip -d filename.zip file4.txt	Delete a file from a zip file

Command Description

unzip -l filename.zip Display the content of zip archive file

unzip filename.zip Unzip a file

unzip filename.zip -d /dirname Unzip a file to a specific directory

scp file.txt server:/tmp # Secure copy file.txt to the /tmp folder on server

scp server:/var/www/*.html /tmp # Copy *.html files from server to the local /tmp folder.

scp -r server:/var/www /tmp # Copy all files and directories recursively from server to the

current system's /tmp folder.

passwd # Change the current user's password.

sudo -i # Switch to the root account with root's environment. (Login

shell.)

visudo # Edit the sudoers configuration file.

uname -a # Display Linux system information
uname -r # Display kernel release information
cat /etc/redhat-release # Show which version of Red Hat installed
lsb release -a # Show which version of Ubuntu installed

uptime # Show how long the system has been running + load

hostname # Show system host name

hostname -l # Display all local IP addresses of the host

last reboot # Show system reboot history date # Show the current date and time cal # Show this month's calendar W # Display who is online whoami # Who you are logged in as