The Linux Directory Structure

Common Top Level Directories

Here are the most common top level directories that you need to be aware of and may interact with as a normal user.

/	"Root," the top of the file system hierarchy.
/bin	Binaries and other executable programs.
/etc	System configuration files.
/home	Home directories.
/opt	Optional or third party software.
/tmp	Temporary space, typically cleared on reboot.
/usr	User related programs.
/var	Variable data, most notably log files.