

# **THE LINUX**



# **COMMANDS HANDBOOK**

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# rmdir/rm

Just as you can create a folder using `mkdir`, you can delete a folder using `rmdir`:

```
mkdir fruits rmdir  
fruits
```

You can also delete multiple folders at once:

```
mkdir fruits cars rmdir  
fruits cars
```

The folder you delete must be empty.

To delete folders with files in them, we'll use the more generic `rm` command which deletes files and folders, using the `-rf` options:

```
rm -rf fruits cars
```

Be careful as this command does not ask for confirmation and it will immediately remove anything you ask it to remove.

There is no **bin** when removing files from the command line, and recovering lost files can be hard.

```
prateekjangid@prateekjangid:~$ rmdir --help
Usage: rmdir [OPTION]... DIRECTORY...
Remove the DIRECTORY(ies), if they are empty.

  --ignore-fail-on-non-empty
                        ignore each failure that is solely because a directory
                        is non-empty
  -p, --parents         remove DIRECTORY and its ancestors; e.g., 'rmdir -p a/b/c' is
                        similar to 'rmdir a/b/c a/b a'
  -v, --verbose         output a diagnostic for every directory processed
  --help               display this help and exit
  --version             output version information and exit

GNU coreutils online help: <https://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/>
Full documentation <https://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/rmdir>
or available locally via: info '(coreutils) rmdir invocation'
prateekjangid@prateekjangid:~$
```