

OPEN-SOURCE EBOOK

# ++101 LINUX COMMANDS

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# 101 Linux commands Open-source eBook

This is an open-source eBook with 101 Linux commands that everyone should know. No matter if you are a DevOps/SysOps engineer, developer, or just a Linux enthusiast, you will most likely have to use the terminal at some point in your career.

## **Verbose (detailed) output while compressing:**

**Action:** --- Compress a file in a more verbose manner

**Details:** --- Output more information about the action of the command

**Command:**

```
gzip -v file_name
```

# The `whatis` command

The `whatis` command is used to display one-line manual page descriptions for commands. It can be used to get a basic understanding of what a (unknown) command is used for.

## Examples of uses:

1. To display what `ls` is used for:

```
whatis ls
```

2. To display the use of all commands which start with `make`, execute the following:

```
whatis -w make*
```

## Syntax:

```
whatis [-OPTION] [KEYWORD]
```

## Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
<code>-d</code>	<code>--debug</code>	Show debugging messages
<code>-r</code>	<code>--regex</code>	Interpret each keyword as a regex

**Short Flag Long Flag Description**

<b>-w</b>	<b>--wildcard</b>	The keyword(s) contain wildcards
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# The `who` command

The `who` command lets you print out a list of logged-in users, the current run level of the system and the time of last system boot.

## Examples

1. Print out all details of currently logged-in users

```
who -a
```

2. Print out the list of all dead processes

```
who -d -H
```

## Syntax:

```
who [options] [filename]
```

## Additional Flags and their Functionalities

Short Flag	Description
-r	prints all the current runlevel
-d	print all the dead processes
-q	print all the login names and total number of logged on users

Short Flag	Description
-h	print the heading of the columns displayed
-b	print the time of last system boot



# The `free` command

The `free` command in Linux/Unix is used to show memory (RAM/SWAP) information.

```
echo [option] [string]
```

It is usually used in shell scripts and batch files to output status text to the screen or a file. The **-e** used with it enables the interpretation of backslash escapes

### Additional Options and their Functionalities:

Option	Description
<b>\b</b>	removes all the spaces in between the text
<b>\c</b>	suppress trailing new line with backspace interpreter '-e' to continue without emitting new line.
<b>\n</b>	creates new line from where it is used
<b>\t</b>	creates horizontal tab spaces
<b>\r</b>	carriage returns with backspace interpreter '-e' to have specified carriage return in output
<b>\v</b>	creates vertical tab spaces
<b>\a</b>	alert returns with a backspace interpreter '-e' to have sound alert
<b>-n</b>	omits echoing trailing newline .

# The `finger` Command

The `finger` command displays information about local system users by querying files such as `/etc/passwd`, `/var/run/utmp`, and `/var/log/wtmp`. It is a local command and does not rely on any service or daemon to run. This command helps to quickly retrieve user-related details such as login times, idle status, and other system information.

## Examples:

1. View details about a particular user.

```
finger abc
```

### Output

```
Login: abc                               Name: (null)
Directory: /home/abc                     Shell: /bin/bash
On since Mon Nov  1 18:45 (IST) on :0 (messages off)
On since Mon Nov  1 18:46 (IST) on pts/0 from :0.0
New mail received Fri May  7 10:33 2013 (IST)
Unread since Sat Jun  7 12:59 2003 (IST)
No Plan.
```

2. View login details and idle status about a user.

```
finger -s root
```

*Output*

Login	Name		Tty	Idle	Login Time
Office	Office	Phone			
root	root	*1	19d Wed	17:45	
root	root	*2	3d Fri	16:53	
root	root	*3	Mon	20:20	
root	root	*ta	2 Tue	15:43	
root	root	*tb	2 Tue	15:44	

**Syntax:**

```
finger [-l] [-m] [-p] [-s] [username]
```

**Additional Flags and Their Functionalities:****Flag Description**

- l Force long output format.
- m Match arguments only on username (not first or last name).
- p Suppress printing of the .plan file in a long format printout.
- s Force short output format.

**Additional Information:****Default Format:**

The default format includes items like login name, full username, terminal name, and write status. The command provides details like idle time, login time, and site-specific information.

**Longer Format:**

In a long format, the command adds details such as the user's home directory, login shell, and the contents of `.plan` and `.project` files.



This is a sample from "101 Linux Commands" by Bobby Iliev and the Hacktoberfest  
community.

For more information, [Click here](#).