**Basic Linux Commands**

**Files and Directories**

These commands allow you to create directories and handle files.

Given below is the list of commands in Files and Directories.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Sr.No. | **Command & Description** |
| 1 | **cat**  Displays File Contents |
| 2 | **cd**  Changes Directory to dirname |
| 3 | **chgrp**  Changes file group |
| 4 | **chmod**  Changes permissions |
| 5 | **cp**  Copies source file into destination |
| 6 | **file**  Determines file type |
| 7 | **find**  Finds files |
| 8 | **grep**  Searches files for regular expressions |
| 9 | **head**  Displays first few lines of a file |
| 10 | **ln**  Creates softlink on oldname |
| 11 | **ls**  Displays information about file type |
| 12 | **mkdir**  Creates a new directory dirname |
| 13 | **more**  Displays data in paginated form |
| 14 | **mv**  Moves (Renames) an oldname to newname |
| 15 | **pwd**  Prints current working directory |
| 16 | **rm**  Removes (Deletes) filename |
| 17 | **rmdir**  Deletes an existing directory provided it is empty |
| 18 | **tail**  Prints last few lines in a file |
| 19 | **touch**  Updates access and modification time of a file |

**Manipulating data**

The contents of files can be compared and altered with the following commands.

Given below is the list of commands in Manipulating data.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sr.No.** | **Command & Description** |
| 1 | **awk**  Pattern scanning and processing language |
| 2 | **cmp**  Compares the contents of two files |
| 3 | **comm**  Compares sorted data |
| 4 | **cut**  Cuts out selected fields of each line of a file |
| 5 | **diff**  Differential file comparator |
| 6 | **expand**  Expands tabs to spaces |
| 7 | **join**  Joins files on some common field |
| 8 | **perl**  Data manipulation language |
| 9 | **sed**  Stream text editor |
| 10 | **sort**  Sorts file data |
| 11 | **split**  Splits file into smaller files |
| 12 | **tr**  Translates characters |
| 13 | **uniq**  Reports repeated lines in a file |
| 14 | **wc**  Counts words, lines, and characters |
| 15 | **vi**  Opens vi text editor |
| 16 | **vim**  Opens vim text editor |
| 17 | **fmt**  Simple text formatter |
| 18 | **spell**  Checks text for spelling error |
| 19 | **ispell**  Checks text for spelling error |
| 20 | **emacs**  GNU project Emacs |
| 21 | **ex, edit**  Line editor |
| 22 | **emacs**  GNU project Emacs |

**Compressed Files**

Files may be compressed to save space. Compressed files can be created and examined.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sr.No.** | **Command & Description** |
| 1 | **compress**  Compresses files |
| 2 | **gunzip**  Helps uncompress gzipped files |
| 3 | **gzip**  GNU alternative compression method |
| 4 | **uncompress**  Helps uncompress files |
| 5 | **unzip**  List, test and extract compressed files in a ZIP archive |
| 6 | **zcat**  Cat a compressed file |
| 7 | **zcmp**  Compares compressed files |
| 8 | **zdiff**  Compares compressed files |
| 9 | **zmore**  File perusal filter for crt viewing of compressed text |

**Getting Information**

Various Unix manuals and documentation are available on-line. The following Shell commands give information −

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sr.No.** | **Command & Description** |
| 1 | **apropos**  Locates commands by keyword lookup |
| 2 | **info**  Displays command information pages online |
| 2 | **man**  Displays manual pages online |
| 3 | **whatis**  Searches the whatis database for complete words |
| 4 | **yelp**  GNOME help viewer |