OPEN-SOURCE EBOOK

++101 LINUX COMMANDS



BOBBY ILIEV

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101 Linux commands Opensource 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.

Hacktoberfest

This eBook is made possible thanks to <u>Hacktoberfest</u> and the open source community!

About me

My name is Bobby Iliev, and I have been working as a Linux DevOps Engineer since 2014. I am an avid Linux lover and supporter of the open-source movement philosophy. I am always doing that which I cannot do in order that I may learn how to do it, and I believe in sharing knowledge.

I think it's essential always to keep professional and surround yourself with good people, work hard, and be nice to everyone. You have to perform at a consistently higher level than others. That's the mark of a true professional.

For more information, please visit my blog at https://bobbyiliev.com, follow me on Twitter obbbyiliev and YouTube.

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The 1s command

The **Ls** command lets you see the files and directories inside a specific directory (current working directory by default). It normally lists the files and directories in ascending alphabetical order.

Examples:

1. To show the files inside your current working directory:

ls

2. To show the files and directory inside a specific Directory:

```
ls {Directory_Path}
```

Syntax:

```
ls [-OPTION] [DIRECTORY_PATH]
```

Interactive training

In this interactive tutorial, you will learn the different ways to use the ls command:

The Is command by Tony

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
-l	-	Show results in long format
-S	-	Sort results by file size
-t	-	Sort results by modification time
- r	reverse	Show files and directories in reverse order (descending alphabetical order)
-a	all	Show all files, including hidden files (file names which begin with a period .)
-la	-	Show long format files and directories including hidden files
-lh	-	list long format files and directories with readable size
- A	almost-all	Shows all like -a but without showing .(current working directory) and (parent directory)
- d	directory	Instead of listing the files and directories inside the directory, it shows any information about the directory itself, it can be used with -l to show long formatted information
- F	classify	Appends an indicator character to the end of each listed name, as an example: / character is appended after each directory name listed
-h	human-readable	like -l but displays file size in human- readable unit not in bytes

Setting Persistent Options:

Customizing command behavior in Linux is easy using the alias command. To make these changes permanent, follow these steps:

1. **Create the Alias**: Define your alias with the desired options. For example, to enhance the **ls** command:

```
alias ls="ls --color=auto -lh"
```

- 2. **Persistence**: This alias is effective only for the current session. To make it permanent, add the alias to your shell's configuration file:
 - Bash: Append the alias to ~/.bashrc:

```
echo 'alias ls="ls --color=auto -lh"' >> ~/.bashrc source ~/.bashrc
```

3. **Verification**: Open a new terminal session, and the ls command will display files as configured.

The cd command

The cd command is used to change the current working directory (i.e., in which the current user is working). The "cd" stands for "change directory" and it is one of the most frequently used commands in the Linux terminal.

The cd command is often combined with the ls command (see chapter 1) when navigating through a system, however, you can also press the TAB key two times to list the contents of the new directory you just changed to.

Examples of uses:

1. Change the current working directory:

```
cd <specified_directory_path>
```

2. Change the current working directory to the home directory:

```
cd ~
```

OR

cd

3. Change to the previous directory:

cd -

This will also echo the absolute path of the previous directory.

4. Change the current working directory to the system's root directory:

cd /

☐ Quick Tips

Adding a .. as a directory will allow you to move "up" from a folder:

cd ..

This can also be done multiple times! For example, to move up three folders:

cd ../../

Syntax:

cd [OPTIONS] directory

Additional Flags and Their Functionalities

Short flag Long flag	Description
-L -	Follow symbolic links. By default, cd behaves as if the -L option is specified.
- P -	Don't follow symbolic links.

The cat command

The cat command allows us to create single or multiple files, to view the content of a file or to concatenate files and redirect the output to the terminal or files.

The "cat" stands for 'concatenate.' and it's one of the most frequently used commands in the Linux terminal.

Examples of uses:

1. To display the content of a file in terminal:

```
cat <specified_file_name>
```

2. To display the content of multiple files in terminal:

```
cat file1 file2 ...
```

3. To create a file with the cat command:

```
cat > file_name
```

4. To display all files in current directory with the same filetype:

```
cat *.<filetype>
```

5. To display the content of all the files in current directory:

```
cat *
```

6. To put the output of a given file into another file:

```
cat old_file_name > new_file_name
```

7. Use cat command with more and less options:

```
cat filename | more
cat filename | less
```

8. Append the contents of file1 to file2:

```
cat file1 >> file2
```

9. To concatenate two files together in a new file:

```
cat file1_name file2_name merge_file_name
```

10. Some implementations of cat, with option -n, it's possible to show line numbers:

```
cat -n file1_name file2_name > new_numbered_file_name
```

Syntax:

```
cat [OPTION] [FILE]...
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- A	show-all	equivalent to -vET
- b	number-nonblank	number nonempty output lines, overrides -n
- e	-	equivalent to -vE
-T	-	Display tab separated lines in file opened with cat command.
-E	-	To show \$ at the end of each file.
-E	-	Display file with line numbers.
- n	number	number all output lines
- S	squeeze-blank	suppress repeated empty output lines
- u	-	(ignored)
- V	show-nonprinting	use $^{\rm }$ and M- notation, except for LFD and TAB
-	help	display this help and exit
-	version	output version information and exit

The tac command

tac is a Linux command that allows you to view files line-by-line, beginning from the last line. (tac doesn't reverse the contents of each individual line, only the order in which the lines are presented.) It is named by analogy with cat.

Examples of uses:

1. To display the content of a file in terminal:

```
tac <specified_file_name>
```

2. This option attaches the separator before instead of after.

```
tac -b concat_file_name tac_example_file_name
```

3. This option will interpret the separator as a regular expression.

```
tac -r concat_file_name tac_example_file_name
```

4. This option uses STRING as the separator instead of newline.

```
tac -s concat_file_name tac_example_file_name
```

5. This option will display the help text and exit.

```
tac --help
```

6. This option will give the version information and exit.

```
tac --version
```

Syntax:

```
tac [OPTION]... [FILE]...
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- b	before	attach the separator before instead of after
- r	regex	interpret the separator as a regular expression
- S	separator=STRING	use STRING as the separator instead of newline
-	help	display this help and exit
-	version	output version information and exit

The head command

The head command prints the first ten lines of a file.

Example:

```
head filename.txt
```

Syntax:

```
head [OPTION] [FILENAME]
```

Get a specific number of lines:

Use the -n option with a number (should be an integer) of lines to display.

Example:

```
head -n 10 foo.txt
```

This command will display the first ten lines of the file foo.txt.

Syntax:

```
head -n <number> foo.txt
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- C	bytes=[-]NUM	Print the first NUM bytes of each file; with the leading '-', print all but the last NUM bytes of each file
-n	lines=[-]NUM	Print the first NUM lines instead of the first 10; with the leading '-', print all but the last NUM lines of each file
- q	quiet,silent	Never print headers giving file names
- V	verbose	Always print headers giving file names
- Z	zero-terminated	Line delimiter is NUL, not newline
	help	Display this help and exit
	version	Output version information and exit

The tail command

The tail command prints the last ten lines of a file.

Example:

```
tail filename.txt
```

Syntax:

```
tail [OPTION] [FILENAME]
```

Get a specific number of lines with tail:

Use the -n option with a number(should be an integer) of lines to display.

Example:

```
tail -n 10 foo.txt
```

This command will display the last ten lines of the file foo.txt.

Refresh the output on any new entry in a file

It is possible to let tail output any new line added to the file you are looking into. So, if a new line is written to the file, it will immediately be

shown in your output. This can be done using the --follow or -f option. This is especially useful for monitoring log files.

Example:

Syntax:

Additional Flags and their Functionalities

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- C	bytes=[+]NUM	Output the last NUM bytes; or use -c +NUM to output starting with byte NUM of each file
- f	follow[={name descriptor}]	Output appended data as the file grows; an absent option argument means 'descriptor'
-F		Same asfollow=name retry
-n	lines=[+]NUM	Output the last NUM lines, instead of the last 10; or use -n +NUM to output starting with line NUM

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
	max-unchanged-stats=N	withfollow=name, reopen a FILE which has not changed size after N (default 5) iterations to see if it has been unlinked or rename (this is the usual case of rotated log files); with inotify, this option is rarely useful
	pid=PID	with -f, terminate after process ID, PID dies
- q	quiet,silent	Never output headers giving file names
	retry	keep trying to open a file if it is inaccessible
- S	sleep-interval=N	With -f, sleep for approximately N seconds (default 1.0) between iterations; with inotify andpid=P, check process P at least once every N seconds
- V	verbose	Always output headers giving file names
- Z	zero-terminated	Line delimiter is NUL, not newline
	help	Display this help and exit
	version	Output version information and exit

The pwd command

The pwd stands for Print Working Directory. It prints the path of the current working directory, starting from the root.

Example:

pwd

The output would be your current directory:

/home/your_user/some_directory

Syntax:

pwd [OPTION]

Tip: You can also check this by printing out the \$PWD variable:

echo \$PWD

The output would be the same as of the pwd command.

Options:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
-L	logical	If the environment variable \$PWD contains an absolute name of the current directory with no "." or "" components, then output those contents, even if they contain symbolic links. Otherwise, fall back to default (-P) behavior.
-P	physical	Print a fully resolved name for the current directory, where all components of the name are actual directory names, and not symbolic links.
	help	Display a help message, and exit.
	version	Display version information, and exit.

By default, pwd' behaves as if -L' were specified.

The touch Command

The touch command modifies a file's timestamps. If the file specified doesn't exist, an empty file with that name is created.

Syntax

```
touch [OPTION]... FILE...
```

Options

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- a	-	Change only the access time.
- C	no-create	Do not create any files.
- d STRING	date=STRING	Parse <i>STRING</i> and use it instead of the current time.
-f	-	(Ignored) This option does nothing but is accepted to provide compatibility with BSD versions of the touch command.
-h	no-dereference	Affect each symbolic link instead of any referenced file (useful only on systems that can change the timestamps of a symlink). This option implies -c, nothing is created if the file does not exist.
- m	-	Change only the modification time.
-r=FILE	reference=FILE	Use this file's times instead of the current time.

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
-t STAMP	-	Use the numeric time <i>STAMP</i> instead of the current time. The format of <i>STAMP</i> is [[CC]YY]MMDDhhmm[.ss].
-	time=WORD	An alternate way to specify which type of time is set (e.g. <i>access</i> , <i>modification</i> , or <i>change</i>). This is equivalent to specifying -a or -m.

- WORD is access, atime, or use: equivalent to -a.
- WORD is modify or mtime: equivalent to -m.

An alternate way to specify what type of time to set (as with -a and -m).||

```
-

|--help|Display a help message, and exit.||

-

|--version|Display version information, and exit.|
```

Examples

1. If **file.txt** exists, set all of its timestamps to the current system time. If **file.txt** doesn't exist, create an empty file with that name.

```
touch file.txt
```

2. If **file.txt** exists, set its times to the current system time. If it does not exist, do nothing.

```
touch -c file.txt
```

3. Change the *access* time of **file.txt**. The *modification* time is not changed. The *change* time is set to the current system time. If **file.txt** does not exist, it is created.

```
touch -a file.txt
```

4. Change the times of file **symboliclink**. If it's a symbolic link, change the times of the symlink, **NOT** the times of the referenced file.

```
touch -h symboliclink
```

5. Change the access and modification times of file-b.txt to match the times of file-a.txt. The change time will be set to the current system time. If file-b.txt does not exist, it is not created. Note, file-a.txt must already exist in this context.

```
touch -cr file-a.txt file-b.txt
```

6. Set the *access* time and *modification* time of **file.txt** to **February 1st** of the current year. The *change* time is set to the current system time.

```
touch -d "1 Feb" file.txt
```

The cal Command

The cal command displays a formatted calendar in the terminal. If no options are specified, cal displays the current month, with the current day highlighted.

Syntax:

cal [general options] [-jy] [[month] year]

Options:

Option	Description
- h	Don't highlight today's date.
-m month	Specify a month to display. The month specifier is a full month name (e.g., February), a month abbreviation of at least three letters (e.g., Feb), or a number (e.g., 2). If you specify a number, followed by the letter "f" or "p", the month of the following or previous year, respectively, display. For instance, -m 2f displays February of next year.
-y year	Specify a year to display. For example, -y 1970 displays the entire calendar of the year 1970.
-3	Display last month, this month, and next month.
-1	Display only this month. This is the default.
-A num	Display num months occurring after any months already specified. For example, -3 -A 3 displays last month, this month, and four months after this one; and -y 1970 -A 2 displays every month in 1970, and the first two months of 1971.

Option	Description
-B num	Display num months occurring before any months already specified. For example, -3 -B 2 displays the previous three months, this month, and next month.
-d YYYY- MM	Operate as if the current month is number MM of year YYYY.

Examples:

1. Display the calendar for this month, with today highlighted.

cal

2. Same as the previous command, but do not highlight today.

cal -h

3. Display last month, this month, and next month.

cal -3

4. Display this entire year's calendar.

cal -y

5. Display the entire year 2000 calendar.

cal -y 2000

6. Same as the previous command.

cal 2000

7. Display the calendar for December of this year.

```
cal -m [December, Dec, or 12]
```

10. Display the calendar for December 2000.

cal 12 2000

The bc command

The **bc** command provides the functionality of being able to perform mathematical calculations through the command line.

Examples:

1. Arithmetic:

```
Input : $ echo "11+5" | bc
Output : 16
```

2 . Increment:

- var -++: Post increment operator, the result of the variable is used first and then the variable is incremented.
- - ++var : Pre increment operator, the variable is increased first and then the result of the variable is stored.

```
Input: $ echo "var=3;++var" | bc
Output: 4
```

3. Decrement:

- var -: Post decrement operator, the result of the variable is used first and then the variable is decremented.
- – var : Pre decrement operator, the variable is decreased first and then the result of the variable is stored.

```
Input: $ echo "var=3;--var" | bc
Output: 2
```

4 . Assignment:

```
• var = value : Assign the value to the variable
```

```
• var += value : similar to var = var + value
```

```
 var -= value : similar to var = var - value
```

- var *= value : similar to var = var * value
- var /= value : similar to var = var / value
- var ^= value : similar to var = var ^ value
- var %= value : similar to var = var % value

```
Input: $ echo "var=4;var" | bc
Output: 4
```

5 . Comparison or Relational:

- If the comparison is true, then the result is 1. Otherwise, (false),
 returns 0
- expr1<expr2 : Result is 1, if expr1 is strictly less than expr2.
- expr1<=expr2 : Result is 1, if expr1 is less than or equal to expr2.
- expr1>expr2 : Result is 1, if expr1 is strictly greater than expr2.
- expr1>=expr2: Result is 1, if expr1 is greater than or equal to expr2.
- expr1==expr2 : Result is 1, if expr1 is equal to expr2.
- expr1!=expr2 : Result is 1, if expr1 is not equal to expr2.

```
Input: $ echo "6<4" | bc Output: 9
```

```
Input: $ echo "2==2" | bc
Output: 1
```

6 . Logical or Boolean:

- expr1 && expr2 : Result is 1, if both expressions are non-zero.
- expr1 || expr2 : Result is 1, if either expression is non-zero.
- ! expr : Result is 1, if expr is 0.

```
Input: $ echo "! 1" | bc
Output: 0

Input: $ echo "10 && 5" | bc
Output: 1
```

Syntax:

```
bc [ -hlwsqv ] [long-options] [ file ... ]
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Note: This does not include an exhaustive list of options.

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
-i	interactive	Force interactive mode
-1	mathlib	Use the predefined math routines
- q	quiet	Opens the interactive mode for bc without printing the header
- S	standard	Treat non-standard bc constructs as errors

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- W	warn	Provides a warning if non-standard bc constructs are used

Notes:

- 1. The capabilities of **bc** can be further appreciated if used within a script. Aside from basic arithmetic operations, **bc** supports increments/decrements, complex calculations, logical comparisons, etc.
- 2. Two of the flags in bc refer to non-standard constructs. If you evaluate 100>50 | bc for example, you will get a strange warning. According to the POSIX page for bc, relational operators are only valid if used within an if, while, or for statement.

The of command

The df command in Linux/Unix is used to show the disk usage & information. df is an abbreviation for "disk free".

df displays the amount of disk space available on the file system containing each file name argument. If no file name is given, the space available on all currently mounted file systems is shown.

Syntax

```
df [OPTION]... [FILE]...
```

Options

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- a	all	Include pseudo, duplicate, inaccessible file systems.
-B	block-size=SIZE	Scale sizes by SIZE before printing them; e.g., -BM prints sizes in units of 1,048,576 bytes; see SIZE format below.
-h	human-readable	Print sizes in powers of 1024 (e.g., 1023M).
-H	si	Print sizes in powers of 1000 (e.g., 1.1G).
-i	inodes	List inode information instead of block usage.

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- k	-	Likeblock-size=1K.
-1	local	Limit listing to local file systems.
-	no-sync	Do not invoke sync before getting usage info (default).
-	output[=FIELD_LIST]	Use the output format defined by FIELD_LIST, or print all fields if FIELD_LIST is omitted.
- P	portability	Use the POSIX output format
-	sync	Invoke sync before getting usage info.
-	total	Elide all entries insignificant to available space, and produce a grand total.
-t	type=TYPE	Limit listing to file systems of type TYPE.
-T	print-type	Print file system type.
- X	exclude-type=TYPE	Limit listing to file systems not of type TYPE.
- V	-	Ignored; included for compatibility reasons.
-	help	Display help message and exit.
-	version	Output version information and exit.

Examples:

1. Show available disk space **Action:** --- Output the available disk space and where the directory is mounted

Details: --- Outputted values are not human-readable (are in bytes)

Command:

df

2. Show available disk space in human-readable form **Action:** --Output the available disk space and where the directory is
mounted

Details: --- Outputted values ARE human-readable (are in GBs/MBs)

Command:

df -h

3. Show available disk space for the specific file system **Action:** --Output the available disk space and where the directory is
mounted

Details: --- Outputted values are only for the selected file system

Command:

```
df -hT file_system_name
```

4. Show available inodes **Action:** --- Output the available inodes for all file systems

Details: --- Outputted values are for inodes and not available space

Command:

df -i

5. Show file system type **Action:** --- Output the file system types

Details: --- Outputted values are for all file systems

Command:

6. Exclude file system type from the output **Action:** --- Output the information while excluding the chosen file system type

Details: --- Outputted values are for all file systems EXCEPT the chosen file system type

Command:

The help command

The help command displays information about builtin commands. Display information about builtin commands.

If a PATTERN is specified, this command gives detailed help on all commands matching the PATTERN, otherwise the list of available help topics is printed.

Syntax

```
$ help [-dms] [PATTERN ...]
```

Options

Option Description

- -d Output short description for each topic.
- -m Display usage in pseudo-manpage format.
- Output only a short usage synopsis for each topic matching the provided PATTERN.

Examples of uses:

- 1. We get the complete information about the cd command
- \$ help cd
- 2. We get a short description about the pwd command
- \$ help -d pwd
- 3. We get the syntax of the cd command
- \$ help -s cd

The factor command

The factor command prints the prime factors of each specified integer NUMBER. If none are specified on the command line, it will read them from the standard input.

Syntax

```
$ factor [NUMBER]...
```

OR:

\$ factor OPTION

Options

Option Description

- --help Display this a help message and exit.
- --version Output version information and exit.

Examples

- 1. Print prime factors of a prime number.
 - \$ factor 50
- 2. Print prime factors of a non-prime number.
 - \$ factor 75

The uname command

The uname command lets you print out system information and defaults to outputting the kernel name.

Syntax:

\$ uname [OPTION]

Examples

1. Print out all system information.

```
$ uname -a
```

2. Print out the kernel version.

```
$ uname -v
```

Options

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- a	all	Print all information, except omit processor and hardware platform if unknown.
- S	kernel-name	Print the kernel name.
- n	nodename	Print the network node hostname.
- r	kernel-release	Print the kernel release.
- V	kernel-version	Print the kernel version.
- m	machine	Print the machine hardware name.
- p	processor	Print the processor type (non-portable).
-i	hardware-platform	Print the hardware platform (non-portable).
- O	operating-system	Print the operating system.

The mkdir command

The mkdir command in Linux/Unix is used to create a directory.

Syntax

```
$ mkdir [-m=mode] [-p] [-v] [-Z=context] directory [directory
...]
```

Examples

1. Make a directory named **myfiles**.

```
$ mkdir myfiles
```

2. Create a directory named **myfiles** at the home directory:

```
$ mkdir ~/myfiles
```

3. Create the **mydir** directory, and set its file mode (-m) so that all users (a) may read (r), write (w), and execute (x) it.

```
$ mkdir -m a=rwx mydir
```

You can also create sub-directories of a directory. It will create the parent directory first, if it doesn't exist. If it already exists, then it move further to create the sub-directories without any error message.

For directories, this means that any user on the system may view ("read"), and create/modify/delete ("write") files in the directory. Any user may also change to ("execute") the directory, for example with the cd command.

4. Create the directory /home/test/src/python. If any of the parent directories /home, /home/test, or /home/test/src do not already exist, they are automatically created.

```
$ mkdir -p /home/test/src/python
```

Options

Short Flags	Long Flags	Descriptions
- m	mode=MODE	Set file mode (as in chmod), not a=rwx - umask.
- p	parents	No error if existing, make parent directories as needed.
- V	verbose	Print a message for each created directory.
-Z	context=CTX	Set the SELinux security context of each created directory to CTX.
-	help	Display a help message and exit.
-	version	Output version information and exit.

The gzip command

The gzip command in Linux/Unix is used to compress/decompress data.

Usage

Compress a file

Action: --- Compressing a file

Details: --- Reduce the size of the file by applying compression

Command:

gzip file_name

Decompress a file

Action: --- Decompressing a file

Details: --- Restore the file's original form in terms of data and size

Command:

gzip -d archive_01.gz

Compress multiple files:

Action: --- Compress multiple files

Details: --- Compress multiple files into multiple archives

Command:

gzip file_name_01 file_name_02 file_name_03

Decompress multiple files:

Action: --- Decompress multiple files

Details: --- Decompress multiple files from multiple archives

Command:

gzip -d archive_01.gz archive_02.gz archive_03.gz

Compress a directory:

Action: --- Compress all the files in a directory

Details: --- Compress multiple files under a directory in one single

archive

Command:

gzip -r directory_name

Decompress a directory:

Action: --- Decompress all the files in a directory

Details: --- Decompress multiple files under a directory from one single archive

Command:

gzip -dr directory_name

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

```
-d --debug-r --regexInterpret each keyword as a regex
```

Short Flag Long Flag Description

-w --wildcard The keyword(s) contain wildcards

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 - 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.

Usage

Show memory usage

Action: --- Output the memory usage - available and used, as well as swap

Details: --- Outputted values are not human-readable (are in bytes)

Command:

free

Show memory usage in human-readable form

Action: --- Output the memory usage - available and used, as well as swap

Details: --- Outputted values ARE human-readable (are in GB / MB)

Command:

free -h

The top/htop command

top is the default command-line utility that comes pre-installed on Linux distributions and Unix-like operating systems. It is used for displaying information about the system and its top CPU-consuming processes as well as RAM usage.

htop is interactive process-viewer and process-manager for Linux and Unix-like operating system based on neurses. If you take top and put it on steroids, you get htop.

Comparison between top and htop:

Feature	top	htop
Туре	Interactive system- monitor, process-viewer and process-manager	Interactive system-monitor, process-viewer and process-manager
Operating System	Linux distributions, macOS	Linux distributions, macOS
Installation	Built-in and is always there. Also has more adoption due to this fact.	Doesn't come preinstalled on most Linux distros. Manual installation is needed
User Interface	Basic text only	Colorful and nicer text- graphics interface
Scrolling Support	No	Yes, supports horizontal and vertical scrolling
Mouse Support	No	Yes
Process utilization	Displays processes but not in tree format	Yes, including user and kernel threads
Scrolling Support	No	Yes, supports horizontal and vertical scrolling
Mouse Support	No	Yes
Process utilization	Displays processes but not in tree format	Yes, including user and kernel threads
Network Utilization	No	No
Disk Utilization	No	No
Comments	Has a learning curve for some advanced options like searching, sending messages to processes, etc. It is good to have some knowledge of top because it is the default process viewer on many systems.	Easier to use and supports vi like searching with /. Sending messages to processes (kill, renice) is easier and doesn't require typing in the process number like top.

Examples:

top

1. To display dynamic real-time information about running processes:

top

2. Sorting processes by internal memory size (default order - process ID):

```
top -o mem
```

3. Sorting processes first by CPU, then by running time:

```
top -o cpu -O time
```

4. Display only processes owned by given user:

```
top -user {user_name}
```

htop

1. Display dynamic real-time information about running processes. An enhanced version of top.

htop

2. displaying processes owned by a specific user:

```
htop --user {user_name}
```

3. Sort processes by a specified sort_item (use htop --sort help
 for available options):

```
htop --sort {sort_item}
```

Syntax:

top [OPTIONS]

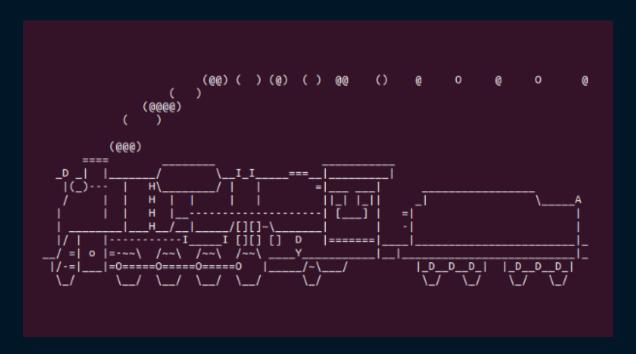
htop [OPTIONS]

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- a	-	Sort by memory usage.
- b	-	Batch mode operation. Starts top in 'Batch mode', which could be useful for sending output from top to other programs or to a file. In this mode, top will not accept input and runs until the iterations limit you've set with the '-n' command-line option or until killed.
- h	-	<pre>topuser {user_name} Only display processes owned by user.</pre>
-U	-user	Help.
- u	-	This is an alias equivalent to: -o cpu -O time.

The st command

The sl command in Linux is a humorous program that runs a steam locomotive(sl) across your terminal.



Installation

Install the package before running.

sudo apt install sl

Syntax

sl

The echo command

The echo command lets you display the line of text/string that is passed as an argument

Examples:

1. To Show the line of text or string passed as an argument:

```
echo Hello There
```

2. To show all files/folders similar to the ls command:

```
echo *
```

3. To save text to a file named foo.bar:

```
echo "Hello There" > foo.bar
```

4. To append text to a file named foo.bar:

```
echo "Hello There" >> foo.bar
```

Syntax:

```
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** removes all the spaces in between the text
- suppress trailing new line with backspace interpretor '-e' to continue without emitting new line.
- \n creates new line from where it is used
- \t creates horizontal tab spaces
- carriage returns with backspace interpretor '-e' to have specified carriage return in output
- \v creates vertical tab spaces
- alert returns with a backspace interpretor '-e' to have sound alert
- -n 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

Directory: /home/abc

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

Гіme

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.

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Privacy Considerations

While the **finger** command is useful for retrieving information about system users, it may also expose sensitive details in shared or multiuser environments:

- 1. **Usernames and Login Times**: Displays login times, which can be used to track user activity.
- 2. **Home Directories**: Exposes paths to users' home directories.
- 3. **Idle Status**: Shows how long a user has been inactive, potentially signaling whether they are actively using their system.
- 4. **Mail Status**: Displays mail information, which may inadvertently reveal user engagement.

Potential Risks:

In environments with untrusted users, the information exposed by finger could be exploited for:

- **Social Engineering Attacks**: Malicious actors could use this information to craft personalized phishing attacks.
- **Timing Attacks**: Knowing when a user is idle or active could give attackers an advantage in timing their attempts.
- **Targeted Attacks**: Knowledge of user home directories can focus attacks on those locations.

Mitigating Privacy Risks:

To mitigate these risks, consider limiting access to the finger command in environments where user privacy is important.

The in.fingerd Service

It's important to distinguish between the finger command and the in.fingerd service. The finger command is local, while in.fingerd is a network daemon that allows remote queries of user information. This service is typically disabled by default in modern systems due to potential security risks.

If enabled, the in.fingerd service can expose user information over the network, which could be exploited by attackers. To mitigate this risk, system administrators should ensure the service is disabled if it is not needed.

Disabling the in.fingerd Service:

If you are concerned about remote queries, you can disable the in.fingerd service:

```
sudo systemctl disable in.fingerd
sudo systemctl stop in.fingerd
```

By disabling the in.fingerd service, you prevent remote querying of user information, enhancing system security.

The groups command

In Linux, there can be multiple users (those who use/operate the system), and groups (a collection of users). Groups make it easy to manage users with the same security and access privileges. A user can be part of different groups.

Important Points:

The groups command prints the names of the primary and any supplementary groups for each given username, or the current process if no names are given. If more than one name is given, the name of each user is printed before the list of that user's groups and the username is separated from the group list by a colon.

Syntax:

groups [username]

Example 1

Provided with a username

groups demon

In this example, username demon is passed with groups command and the output shows the groups in which the user demon is present, separated by a colon.

Example 2

When no username is passed then this will display the group membership for the current user:

groups

Here the current user is demon . So when we run the groups command without arguments we get the groups in which demon is a user.

Example 3

Passing root with groups command:

\$demon# groups

Note: Primary and supplementary groups for a process are normally inherited from its parent and are usually unchanged since login. This means that if you change the group database after logging in, groups will not reflect your changes within your existing login session. The only options are -help and -version.

The man command

The man command is used to display the manual of any command that we can run on the terminal. It provides information like: DESCRIPTION, OPTIONS, AUTHORS and more.

Examples:

1. Man page for printf:

```
man printf
```

2. Man page section 2 for intro:

```
man 2 intro
```

3. Viewing the Manual for a Local File (using the -I flag):

```
man -l [LOCAL-FILE]
```

Syntax:

```
man [SECTION-NUM] [COMMAND NAME]
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- f	-	Return the sections of an command
- a	-	Display all the manual pages of an command
-k	-	Searches the given command with RegEx in all man pages
-W	-	Returns the location of a given command man page
- I	-	Searches the command manual case sensitive

The passwd command

In Linux, passwd command changes the password of user accounts. A normal user may only change the password for their own account, but a superuser may change the password for any account. passwd also changes the account or associated password validity period.

Example

\$ passwd

The syntax of the passwd command is:

\$ passwd [options] [LOGIN]

options

```
-a, --all
        This option can be used only with -S and causes show
status for all users.
-d, --delete
        Delete a user's password.
-e, --expire
        Immediately expire an account's password.
-h, --help
        Display help message and exit.
-i, --inactive
        This option is used to disable an account after the
password has been expired for a number of days.
-k, --keep-tokens
        Indicate password change should be performed only for
expired authentication tokens (passwords).
-1, --lock
        Lock the password of the named account.
-q, --quiet
        Quiet mode.
-r, --repository
        change password in repository.
-S, --status
        Display account status information.
```

The w command

The w command displays information about the users that are currently active on the machine and their <u>processes</u>.

Examples:

1. Running the w command without <u>arguments</u> shows a list of logged on users and their processes.

W

2. Show information for the user named hope.

```
w hope
```

Syntax:

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

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description	
- h	no-header	Don't print the header.	

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
-u	no-current	Ignores the username while figuring out the current process and cpu times. (To see an example of this, switch to the root user with su and then run both w and w -u.)
- S	short	Display abbreviated output (don't print the login time, JCPU or PCPU times).
- f	from	Toggle printing the from (remote hostname) field. The default as released is for the from field to not be printed, although your system administrator or distribution maintainer may have compiled a version where the from field is shown by default.
help	-	Display a help message, and exit.
- V	version	Display version information, and exit.
-0	old-style	Old style output (prints blank space for idle times less than one minute).
user	-	Show information about the specified the user only.

Additional Information

The <u>header</u> of the output shows (in this order): the current time, how long the system has been running, how many users are currently logged on, and the system <u>load</u> averages for the past 1, 5, and 15 minutes.

The following entries are displayed for each user:

- login name the <u>tty</u>
- name the remote
- host they are
- logged in from the amount of time they are logged in their
- idle time JCPU

- PCPU
- <u>command line</u> of their current process

The JCPU time is the time used by all processes attached to the tty. It does not include past background jobs, but does include currently running background jobs.

The PCPU time is the time used by the current process, named in the "what" field.

The whoami command

The whoami command displays the username of the current effective user. In other words it just prints the username of the currently logged-in user when executed.

To display your effective user id just type whoami in your terminal:

```
manish@godsmack:~$ whoami
# Output:
manish
```

Syntax:

```
whoami [-OPTION]
```

There are only two options which can be passed to it :

--help: Used to display the help and exit

Example:

```
whoami --help
```

Output:

```
Usage: whoami [OPTION]...

Print the user name associated with the current effective user ID.

Same as id -un.

--help display this help and exit
--version output version information and exit
```

--version: Output version information and exit

Example:

```
whoami --version
```

Output:

```
whoami (GNU coreutils) 8.32
Copyright (C) 2020 Free Software Foundation, Inc.
License GPLv3+: GNU GPL version 3 or later
<https://gnu.org/licenses/gpl.html>.
This is free software: you are free to change and redistribute it.
There is NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by law.
Written by Richard Mlynarik.
```

The history command

If you type history you will get a list of the last 500 commands used. This gives you the possibility to copy and paste commands that you executed in the past.

This is powerful in combination with grep. So you can search for a command in your command history.

Examples:

1. If you want to search in your history for artisan commands you ran in the past.

```
history | grep artisan
```

2. If you only want to show the last 10 commands you can.

history 10

The Login Command

The login command initiates a user session.

Syntax

```
$ login [-p] [-h host] [-H] [-f username|username]
```

Flags and their functionalities

Short Flag	Description
-f	Used to skip a login authentication. This option is usually used by the getty(8) autologin feature.
-h	Used by other servers (such as telnetd(8) to pass the name of the remote host to login so that it can be placed in utmp and wtmp. Only the superuser is allowed use this option.
- p	Used by getty(8) to tell login to preserve the environment.
-Н	Used by other servers (for example, telnetd(8)) to tell login that printing the hostname should be suppressed in the login: prompt.
help	Display help text and exit.
- V	Display version information and exit.

Examples

To log in to the system as user abhishek, enter the following at the login prompt:

\$ login: abhishek

If a password is defined, the password prompt appears. Enter your password at this prompt.

LSCPU Command

lscpu in Linux/Unix is used to display CPU Architecture info. lscpu gathers CPU architecture information from sysfs and /proc/cpuinfo files.

For example :

```
manish@godsmack:~$ lscpu
  Architecture:
                       x86 64
                      32-bit, 64-bit
  CPU op-mode(s):
  Byte Order:
                       Little Endian
  CPU(s):
  On-line CPU(s) list: 0-3
  Thread(s) per core:
  Core(s) per socket: 2
  Socket(s):
  NUMA node(s):
                       GenuineIntel
  Vendor ID:
  CPU family:
  Model:
  Model name:
                       Intel(R) Core(TM) i5-7200U CPU @
2.50GHz
  Stepping:
  CPU MHz:
                       700.024
  CPU max MHz:
                       3100.0000
  CPU min MHz:
                       400.0000
  BogoMIPS:
                       5399.81
  Virtualization:
                       VT-x
  L1d cache:
                       32K
  Lli cache:
                       32K
  L2 cache:
                       256K
  L3 cache:
                       3072K
  NUMA node0 CPU(s):
                      0-3
```

Options

```
    -a, --all Include lines for online and offline CPUs in the output
    (default for -e). This option may only specified together with option -e or
    -p. For example: lsof -a
```

```
-b, --online Limit the output to online CPUs (default for -p). This option may only be specified together with option -e or -p. For example: lscpu -b
```

-c, --offline Limit the output to offline CPUs. This option may only be specified together with option -e or -p.

```
-e, --extended [=list] Display the CPU information in human readable format. For example: lsof -e
```

For more info: use man lscpu or lscpu --help

The cp command

The cp is a command-line utility for copying files and directory. cp stands for copy. This command is used to copy files or group of files or directory. It creates an exact image of a file on a disk with different file name. The cp command requires at least two filenames in its arguments.

Examples:

1. To copy the contents of the source file to the destination file.

```
cp sourceFile destFile
```

If the destination file doesn't exist then the file is created and the content is copied to it. If it exists then the file is overwritten.

2. To copy a file to another directory specify the absolute or the relative path to the destination directory.

```
cp sourceFile /folderName/destFile
```

3. To copy a directory, including all its files and subdirectories

```
cp -R folderName1 folderName2
```

The command above creates the destination directory and recursively

copies all files and subdirectories from the source to the destination directory.

If the destination directory already exists, the source directory itself and its content are copied inside the destination directory.

4. To copy only the files and subdirectories but not the source directory

```
cp -RT folderName1 folderName2
```

Syntax:

The general syntax for the cp command is as follows:

```
cp [OPTION] SOURCE DESTINATION
cp [OPTION] SOURCE DIRECTORY
cp [OPTION] SOURCE-1 SOURCE-2 SOURCE-3 SOURCE-n DIRECTORY
```

The first and second syntax is used to copy Source file to Destination file or Directory. The third syntax is used to copy multiple Sources(files) to Directory.

Some useful options

1. -i (interactive) i stands for Interactive copying. With this option system first warns the user before overwriting the destination file. cp prompts for a response, if you press y then it overwrites the file and with any other option leave it uncopied.

```
$ cp -i file1.txt fileName2.txt
cp: overwrite 'file2.txt'? y
```

2. -b(backup) -b(backup): With this option cp command creates the backup of the destination file in the same folder with the different name and in different format.

```
$ ls
a.txt b.txt

$ cp -b a.txt b.txt

$ ls
a.txt b.txt b.txt~
```

3. -f(force) If the system is unable to open destination file for writing operation because the user doesn't have writing permission for this file then by using -f option with cp command, destination file is deleted first and then copying of content is done from source to destination file.

```
$ ls -l b.txt
-r-xr-xr-x+ 1 User User 3 Nov 24 08:45 b.txt
```

User, group and others doesn't have writing permission.

Without -f option, command not executed

```
$ cp a.txt b.txt
cp: cannot create regular file 'b.txt': Permission denied
```

With -f option, command executed successfully

\$ cp -f a.txt b.txt

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
-i	interactive	prompt before overwrite
-f	force	If an existing destination file cannot be opened, remove it and try again
-b	-	Creates the backup of the destination file in the same folder with the different name and in different format.
-r or -R	recursive	cp command shows its recursive behavior by copying the entire directory structure recursively.
- n	no-clobber	do not overwrite an existing file (overrides a previous -i option)
- p	-	preserve the specified attributes (default: mode,ownership,timestamps), if possible additional attributes: context, links, xattr, all

The w command

The mv command lets you move one or more files or directories from one place to another in a file system like UNIX. It can be used for two distinct functions:

- To rename a file or folder.
- To move a group of files to a different directory.

Note: No additional space is consumed on a disk during renaming, and the mv command doesn't provide a prompt for confirmation

Syntax:

```
mv [options] source (file or directory) destination
```

Examples:

1. To rename a file called old_name.txt:

```
mv old_name.txt new_name.txt
```

2. To move a file called *essay.txt* from the current directory to a directory called *assignments* and rename it *essay1.txt*:

```
mv essay.txt assignments/essay1.txt
```

3. To move a file called *essay.txt* from the current directory to a directory called *assignments* without renaming it

mv essay.txt assignments

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- f	force	Force move by overwriting destination file without prompt
-i	interactive	Interactive prompt before overwrite
- u	update	Move only when the source file is newer than the destination file or when the destination file is missing
- n	no-clobber	Do not overwrite an existing file
- V	verbose	Print source and destination files
- b	backup	Create a Backup of Existing Destination File

The ps command

The ps command is used to identify programs and processes that are running on the system and the resources they are using. Its frequently pipelined with other commands like grep to search for a program/process or less so that the user can analyze the output one page at a time.

Let's say you have a program like openshot which is notorious for hogging system resources when exporting a video, and you want to close it, but the GUI has become unresponsive.

Example

1. You want to find the PID of openshot and kill it.

```
ps aux | grep openshot
kill - <openshot PID>
```

2. To Show all the running processes:

```
ps -A
```

Syntax

```
ps [options]
```

When run without any options, it's useless and will print: CMD - the

executable processes/(program) running, their PID - process ID, TTY - terminal type and Time - How long the process has utilized the CPU or thread.

Common Option

If you are going to remember only one thing from this page let it be these three letter aux: a - which displays all processes running, including those being run by other users. u - which shows the effective user of a process, i.e. the person whose file access permissions are used by the process. x - which shows processes that do not have a TTY associated with them.

Additional Options:

Option	Description
а	Shows list all processes with a terminal (tty)
- A	Lists all processes. Identical to -e
-a	Shows all processes except both session leaders and processes not associated with a terminal
- d	Select all processes except session leaders
deselect	Shows all processes except those that fulfill the specified conditions. Identical to -N
-e	Lists all processes. Identical to -A
- N	Shows all processes except those that fulfill the specified conditions. Identical to -deselect
Т	Select all processes associated with this terminal. Identical to the -t option without any argument
r	Restrict the selection to only running processes
help simple	Shows all the basic options
help all	Shows every available options

Another useful command which give a realtime snapshot of the

processes and the resources they are using about every ten seconds is top.

The kill command

kill command in Linux (located in /bin/kill), is a built-in command which is used to terminate processes manually. The kill command sends a signal to a process which terminates the process. If the user doesn't specify any signal which is to be sent along with kill command then default *TERM* signal is sent that terminates the process.

Signals can be specified in three ways:

- By number (e.g. -5)
- With SIG prefix (e.g. -SIGkill)
- Without SIG prefix (e.g. -kill)

Syntax

```
kill [OPTIONS] [PID]...
```

Examples:

1. To display all the available signals you can use below command option:

```
kill -l
```

2. To show how to use a PID with the kill command.

```
$kill pid
```

3. To show how to send signal to processes.

```
kill {-signal | -s signal} pid
```

- 4. Specify Signal:
 - using numbers as signals

```
kill -9 pid
```

• using SIG prefix in signals

```
kill -SIGHUP pid
```

• without SIG prefix in signals

```
kill -HUP pid
```

Arguments:

The list of processes to be signaled can be a mixture of names and PIDs.

```
Each pid can be expressed in one of the following
   pid
ways:
                where n is larger than 0. The process with
PID n is signaled.
                All processes in the current process group
are signaled.
                All processes with a PID larger than 1 are
signaled.
               where n is larger than 1. All processes in
process group n are signaled.
                When an argument of the form '-n' is
given, and it is meant to denote a
                process group, either a signal must be
specified first, or the argument must
                be preceded by a '--' option, otherwise it
will be taken as the signal to
                send.
         All processes invoked using this name will be
   name
signaled.
```

Options:

-s, --signal signal

The signal to send. It may be given as a name or a number.

-l, --list [number]

Print a list of signal names, or convert the given signal number to a name. The

signals can be found in /usr/include/linux/signal.h.

-L, --table

Similar to -l, but it will print signal names and their corresponding numbers.

-a, --all

Do not restrict the command-name-to-PID conversion
to processes with the same UID

as the present process.

-p, --pid

Only print the process ID (PID) of the named processes, do not send any signals.

--verbose

Print PID(s) that will be signaled with kill along
with the signal.

The killall command

killall sends a signal to **all** processes running any of the specified commands. If no signal name is specified, **SIGTERM** is sent. In general, killall command kills all processes by knowing the name of the process.

Signals can be specified either by name (e.g. -HUP or -SIGHUP) or by number (e.g. -1) or by option -s.

If the command name is not a regular expression (option -r) and contains a slash (/), processes executing that particular file will be selected for killing, independent of their name.

killall returns a zero return code if at least one process has been killed for each listed command, or no commands were listed and at least one process matched the -u and -Z search criteria. killall returns non-zero otherwise.

A killall process never kills itself (but may kill other killall processes).

Examples:

1. Kill all processes matching the name conky with SIGTERM:

```
killall conky
# OR
killall -SIGTERM conky
# OR
kilall -15 conky
```

I was able to kill Wine (which are Windows exe files running on Linux) applications this way too.

```
killall TQ.exe
```

2. List all the supported signals:

```
$ killall -l
HUP INT QUIT ILL TRAP ABRT BUS FPE KILL USR1 SEGV USR2 PIPE
ALRM TERM STKFLT
CHLD CONT STOP TSTP TTIN TTOU URG XCPU XFSZ VTALRM PROF WINCH
POLL PWR SYS
```

As for the numbers.

```
$ for s in $(killall -l); do echo -n "$s " && kill -l $s; done
HUP 1
INT 2
QUIT 3
ILL 4
TRAP 5
ABRT 6
BUS 7
FPE 8
KILL 9
USR1 10
SEGV 11
USR2 12
PIPE 13
ALRM 14
TERM 15
STKFLT 16
CHLD 17
CONT 18
STOP 19
TSTP 20
TTIN 21
TT0U 22
URG 23
XCPU 24
XFSZ 25
VTALRM 26
PROF 27
WINCH 28
P0LL 29
PWR 30
SYS 31
```

3. Ask before killing, to prevent unwanted kills:

```
$ killall -i conky
Kill conky(1685) ? (y/N)
```

4. Kill all processes and wait until the processes die.

```
killall -w conky
```

5. Kill based on time:

```
# Kill all firefox younger than 2 minutes
killall -y 2m firefox
# Kill all firefox older than 2 hours
killall -o 2h firefox
```

Syntax:

```
killall [OPTION]... [--] NAME...
killall -l, --list
killall -V, --version
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- e	exact	require an exact match for very long names
-I	ignore-case	case insensitive process name match
- g	process-group	kill process group instead of process
- y	younger-than	kill processes younger than TIME
- 0	older-than	kill processes older than TIME
-i	interactive	ask for confirmation before killing
-l	list	list all known signal names
- q	quiet	don't print complaints
- r	regexp	interpret NAME as an extended regular expression

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- S	signal SIGNAL	send this signal instead of SIGTERM
- u	user USER	kill only process(es) running as USER
- V	verbose	report if the signal was successfully sent
- W	wait	wait for processes to die
-n	ns PID	match processes that belong to the same namespaces as PID
- Z	context	REGEXP kill only process(es) having context (must precede other arguments)

Related commands

<u>kill</u>, pidof

The env command

The env command in Linux/Unix is used to either print a list of the current environment variables or to run a program in a custom environment without changing the current one.

Syntax

```
env [OPTION]... [-] [NAME=VALUE]... [COMMAND [ARG]...]
```

Usage

1. Print out the set of current environment variables

```
env
```

2. Run a command with an empty environment

```
env -i command_name
```

3. Remove variable from the environment

```
env -u variable_name
```

4. End each output with NULL

```
env -0
```

Full List of Options

	hort lag	Long Flag	Description
	i	ignore-environment	Start with an empty environment
	0	null	End each output line with NUL, not newline
	u	unset=NAME	Remove variable from the environment
	С	chdir=DIR	Change working directory to DIR
	S	split-string=S	Process and split S into separate arguments. It's used to pass multiple arguments on shebang lines
	V	debug	Print verbose information for each processing step
-		help	Print a help message
-		version	Print the version information

The printenv command

The **printenv** prints the values of the specified <u>environment</u>

<u>VARIABLE(s)</u>. If no <u>VARIABLE</u> is specified, print name and value pairs for them all.

Examples:

1. Display the values of all environment variables.

```
printenv
```

2. Display the location of the current user's home directory.

```
printenv HOME
```

3. To use the --null command line option as the terminating character between output entries.

```
printenv -- null SHELL HOME
```

NOTE: By default, the printenv command uses newline as the terminating character between output entries.

Syntax:

```
printenv [OPTION]... PATTERN...
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag Long Flag Description

End each output line with **0** byte rather than newline.

- help

- Display a help message, and exit.

The hostname command

hostname is used to display the system's DNS name, and to display or set its hostname or NIS domain name.

Syntax:

Examples:

- 1. hostname -a, hostname --alias Display the alias name of the host (if used). This option is deprecated and should not be used anymore.
- 2. hostname -s, hostname --short Display the short host name.

 This is the host name cut at the first dot.
- 3. hostname -V, hostname --version Print version information on standard output and exit successfully.

Help Command

Run below command to view the complete guide to hostname command.

man hostname

The nano command

The nano command lets you create/edit text files.

Installation:

Nano text editor is pre-installed on macOS and most Linux distros. It's an alternative to vi and vim. To check if it is installed on your system type:

nano --version

If you don't have nano installed you can do it by using the package manager:

Ubuntu or Debian:

sudo apt install nano

Examples:

1. Open an existing file, type nano followed by the path to the file:

nano /path/to/filename

2. Create a new file, type nano followed by the filename:

nano filename

3. Open a file with the cursor on a specific line and character use the following syntax:

```
nano +line_number,character_number filename
```

Overview of some Shortcuts and their Functionalities:

Shortcut Description

```
Ctrl + S Save current file
```

Ctrl + 0 Offer to write file ("Save as")

Ctrl + X Close buffer, exit from nano

Ctrl + K Cut current line into cutbuffer

Ctrl + U Paste contents of cutbuffer

Alt + 6 Copy current line into cutbuffer

Alt + U Undo last action

Alt + E Redo last undone action

The rm command

rm which stands for "remove" is a command used to remove (delete) specific files. It can also be used to remove directories by using the appropriate flag.

Example:

rm filename.txt

Syntax

rm [OPTION] [FILE|DIRECTORY]

Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- f	force	Ignore nonexistance of files or directories, never prompt
-i	-	Prompt before every removal
-I	-	Prompt once before removal of more than 3 files, or when removing recursively
- d	dir	remove empty directories
- V	verbose	explain what is being done

Short lag	Long Flag	Description
ror-	recursive	remove directories and their contents recursively
-	help	Display help then exit
-	version	First, Print version Information, Then exit
-	no-preserve-root	do not treat / specially
	-preserve-root[=all]	do not remove / (default) with 'all', reject any command line argument on a separate device from its parent
-	interactive[=WHEN]	prompt according to WHEN, never, once -I, or always -i, without WHEN, prompt always
-	one-file-system	when removing a hierarchy recursively, skip any directory that is on a file system different from that of the corresponding command line argument0

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

- 1. rm doesn't remove directories by default, so use -r, -R, -recursive options to remove each listed directory, along with all
 of its contents.
- 2. To remove a file whose name starts with such as -foo, use one of the following commands:

```
∘ rm -- -foo
∘ rm ./-foo
```

3. To ensure that files/directories being deleted are truly unrecoverable, consider using the shred command.

The ifconfig command

ifconfig is used to configure the kernel-resident network interfaces. It is used at boot time to set up interfaces as necessary. After that, it is usually only needed when debugging or when system tuning is needed.

If no arguments are given, **ifconfig** displays the status of the currently active interfaces. If a single interface argument is given, it displays the status of the given interface only; if a single -a argument is given, it displays the status of all interfaces, even those that are down. Otherwise, it configures an interface.

Syntax:

```
ifconfig [-v] [-a] [-s] [interface]
ifconfig [-v] interface [aftype] options
```

Examples:

1. To display the currently active interfaces:

```
ifconfig
```

2. To show all interfaces which are currently active, even if down:

```
ifconfig -a
```

3. To show all the error conditions:
ifconfig -v
4. To show a short list:
ifconfig -s
5. To display details of the specific network interface (say eth0):
ifconfig eth0
6. To activate the driver for a interface (say eth0):
ifconfig eth0 up
7. To deactivate the driver for a interface (say eth0):
ifconfig eth0 down
8. To assign a specific IP address to a network interface (say eth0):
ifconfig eth0 10.10.1.23
9. To change MAC(Media Access Control) address of a network interface (say etho):

```
ifconfig eth0 hw ether AA:BB:CC:DD:EE:FF
```

10. To define a netmask for a network interface (say eth0):

```
ifconfig eth0 netmask 255.255.255.224
```

11. To enable promiscous mode on a network interface (say eth0):

```
ifconfig eth0 promisc
```

In normal mode, when a packet is received by a network card, it verifies that it belongs to itself. If not, it drops the packet normally. However, in the promiscuous mode, it accepts all the packets that flow through the network card.

12. To disable promiscous mode on a network interface (say eth0):

```
ifconfig eth0 -promisc
```

13. To set the maximum transmission unit to a network interface (say eth0):

```
ifconfig eth0 mtu 1000
```

The MTU allows you to set the limit size of packets that are transmitted on an interface. The MTU is able to handle a maximum number of octets to an interface in one single transaction.

14. To add additional IP addresses to a network interface, you can configure a network alias to the network interface:

```
ifconfig eth0:0 10.10.1.24
```

Please note that the alias network address is in the same subnet mask of the network interface. For example, if your eth0 network ip address is 10.10.1.23, then the alias ip address can be 10.10.1.24. Example of an invalid IP address is 10.10.2.24 since the interface subnet mask is 255.255.255.224

15. To remove a network alias:

```
ifconfig eth0:0 down
```

Remember that for every scope (i.e. same net with address/netmask combination) all aiases are deleted, if you delete the first alias.

Help Command

Run below command to view the complete guide to ifconfig command.

man ifconfig

The ip command

The ip command is present in the net-tools which is used for performing several network administration tasks. IP stands for Internet Protocol. This command is used to show or manipulate routing, devices, and tunnels. It can perform tasks like configuring and modifying the default and static routing, setting up tunnel over IP, listing IP addresses and property information, modifying the status of the interface, assigning, deleting and setting up IP addresses and routes.

Examples:

1. To assign an IP Address to a specific interface (eth1):

```
ip addr add 192.168.50.5 dev eth1
```

2. To show detailed information about network interfaces like IP Address, MAC Address information etc. :

```
ip addr show
```

Syntax:

```
ip [ OPTIONS ] OBJECT { COMMAND | help }
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Flag Description

- -a Display and modify IP Addresses
- -l Display and modify network interfaces
- -r Display and alter the routing table
- -n Display and manipulate neighbor objects (ARP table)
- ru Rule in routing policy database.
- Output more information. If the option appears twice or more, the amount of information increases
- -f Specifies the protocol family to use
- Use the system's name resolver to print DNS names instead of host addresses
- -c To configure color output

The clear command

In linux, the clear command is used to clear terminal screen.

Example

\$ clear

Before:

\$ echo Hello World
Hello World

\$ clear

After executing clear command:

\$

Screenshot:

```
devdojo@bobbyiliev:~/101-linux-commands-ebook$ ls -l
total 20
-rw-r--r-- 1 devdojo devdojo 1068 Oct 1 13:31 LICENSE
-rw-r--r-- 1 devdojo devdojo 9806 Oct 1 13:31 README.md
drwxr-xr-x 3 devdojo devdojo 4096 Oct 1 13:31 ebook
devdojo@bobbyiliev:~/101-linux-commands-ebook$ clear
```

After running the command your terminal screen will be clear:

```
devdojo@bobbyiliev:~/101-linux-commands-ebook$
```

The su command

In linux, su allows you to run commands with a substitute user and group ID.

When called without arguments, su defaults to running an interactive shell as root.

Example:

\$ su

In case that you wanted to switch to a user called devdojo, you could do that by running the following command:

\$ su devdojo

The syntax of the su command is:

```
$ su [options] [-] [<user>[<argument>...]]
```

Options:

```
--> do not reset environment variables
-m, -p
              --> do not reset specified variables
-W
              --> specify the primary group
-g
              --> specify a supplemental group
-G
-1
               --> make the shell a login shell
- f
               --> pass -f to the shell (for csh or tcsh)
- S
              --> run <shell> if /etc/shell allows it
              --> create a new pseudo terminal
- p
-h
              --> display this help
              --> display version
- V
```

The wget command

The wget command is used for downloading files from the Internet. It supports downloading files using HTTP, HTTPS and FTP protocols. It allows you to download several files at once, download in the background, resume downloads, limit the bandwidth, mirror a website, and much more.

Syntax

The wget syntax requires you to define the downloading options and the URL the to be downloaded file is coming from.

```
$ wget [options] [URL]
```

Examples

In this example we will download the Ubuntu 20.04 desktop iso file from different sources. Go over to your terminal or open a new one and type in the below wget. This will stat the download. The download may take a few minutes to complete.

1. Starting a regular download

```
wget
https://releases.ubuntu.com/20.04/ubuntu-20.04.3-desktop-amd64
.iso
```

2. You can resume a download using the -c option

```
wget -c
https://mirrors.piconets.webwerks.in/ubuntu-mirror/ubuntu-rele
ases/20.04.3/ubuntu-20.04.3-desktop-amd64.iso
```

3. To download in the background, use the -b option

wget -b

https://mirrors.piconets.webwerks.in/ubuntu-mirror/ubuntu-rele ases/20.04.3/ubuntu-20.04.3-desktop-amd64.iso

More options

On top of downloading, wget provides many more features, such as downloading multiple files, dowloading in the background, limiting download bandwith and resuming stopped downloads. View all wget options in its man page.

man wget

Additional Flags and their Functionalities

Short Flag	Description
- V	prints version of the wget available on your system
-h	print help message displaying all the possible options
- b	This option is used to send a process to the background as soon as it starts.
-t	This option is used to set number of retries to a specified number of times
- C	This option is used to resume a partially downloaded file

The curl command

In linux, **curl** is a tool to transfer data from or to a server, using one of the supported protocols(DICT, FILE ,FTP, FTPS, GOPHER, HTTP, HTTPS, IMAP, IMAPS, LDAP, LDAPS, POP3, POP3S, RTMP, RTSP, SCP, SFTP, SMB, SMBS, SMTP, SMTPS, TELNET and TFTP).

Example:

\$ curl example.com

The command will print the source code of the example.com homepage in the terminal window.

The syntax of the curl command is:

```
$ curl [options...] <url>
```

Options:

Options start with one or two dashes. Many of the options require an additional value next to them.

The short "single-dash" form of the options, -d for example, may be used with or without a space between it and its value, although a space is a recommended separator. The long "double-dash" form, -d, --data for example, requires a space between it and its value.

Short version options that don't need any additional values can be used immediately next to each other, like for example you can specify all the options -0, -L and -v at once as -0Lv.

In general, all boolean options are enabled with --option and yet again disabled with --no-option. That is, you use the exact same option name but prefix it with no-. However, in this list we mostly only list and show the --option version of them. (This concept with --no options was added in 7.19.0. Previously most options were toggled on/off through repeated use of the same command line option.)

Installation:

The curl command comes with most of the Linux distributions. But, if the system does not carry the curl by default. You need to install it manually. To install the curl, execute the following commands:

Update the system by executing the following commands:

```
$ sudo apt update
$ sudo apt upgrade
```

Now, install the curl utility by executing the below command:

```
$ sudo apt install curl
```

Verify the installation by executing the below command:

```
$ curl -version
```

The above command will display the installed version of the curl command.

The yes command

The yes command in linux is used to print a continuous output stream of given STRING. If STRING is not mentioned then it prints 'y'. It outputs a string repeatedly unit killed (using something like ctrl + c).

Examples:

1. Prints hello world infinitely in the terminal until killed:

yes hello world

2. A more generalized command:

yes [STRING]

Options

It accepts the following options:

- 1. --help display this help and exit
- 2. --version output version information and exit

The last command

This command shows you a list of all the users that have logged in and out since the creation of the var/log/wtmp file. There are also some parameters you can add which will show you for example when a certain user has logged in and how long he was logged in for.

If you want to see the last 5 logs, just add -5 to the command like this:

```
last -5
```

And if you want to see the last 10, add -10.

Another cool thing you can do is if you add -F you can see the login and logout time including the dates.

```
last -F
```

There are quite a lot of stuff you can view with this command. If you need to find out more about this command you can run:

```
last --help
```

The locate command

The locate command searches the file system for files and directories whose name matches a given pattern through a database file that is generated by the updatedb command.

Examples:

1. Running the locate command to search for a file named .bashrc.

```
locate .bashrc
```

Output

```
/etc/bash.bashrc
/etc/skel/.bashrc
/home/linuxize/.bashrc
/usr/share/base-files/dot.bashrc
/usr/share/doc/adduser/examples/adduser.local.conf.examples/bash.bashrc
/usr/share/doc/adduser/examples/adduser.local.conf.examples/skel/dot.bashrc
```

The /root/.bashrc file will not be shown because we ran the command as a normal user that doesn't have access permissions to the /root directory.

If the result list is long, for better readability, you can pipe the output to the less command:

```
locate .bashrc | less
```

2. To search for all .md files on the system

```
locate *.md
```

3. To search all .py files and display only 10 results

```
locate -n 10 *.py
```

4. To performs case-insensitive search.

```
locate -i readme.md
```

Output

```
/home/linuxize/p1/readme.md
/home/linuxize/p2/README.md
/home/linuxize/p3/ReadMe.md
```

5. To return the number of all files containing .bashrc in their name.

```
locate -c .bashrc
```

Output

6

6. The following would return only the existing .json files on the file system.

```
locate -e *.json
```

7. To run a more complex search the -r (--regexp) option is used. To search for all .mp4 and .avi files on your system and ignore case.

```
locate --regex -i "(\.mp4|\.avi)"
```

Syntax:

1. locate [OPTION]... PATTERN...

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- A	all	It is used to display only entries that match all PATTERNs instead of requiring only one of them to match.
- b	basename	It is used to match only the base name against the specified patterns.
- C	count	It is used for writing the number matching entries instead of writing file names on standard output.
- d	database DBPATH	It is used to replace the default database with DBPATH.
-e	existing	It is used to display only entries that refer to existing files during the command is executed.

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
-L	follow	If theexisting option is specified, It is used for checking whether files exist and follow trailing symbolic links. It will omit the broken symbolic links to the output. This is the default behavior. The opposite behavior can be specified using thenofollow option.
- h	help	It is used to display the help documentation that contains a summary of the available options.
-i	ignore-case	It is used to ignore case sensitivity of the specified patterns.
- p	ignore-spaces	It is used to ignore punctuation and spaces when matching patterns.
-t	transliterate	It is used to ignore accents using iconv transliteration when matching patterns.
-1	limit, -n LIMIT	If this option is specified, the command exit successfully after finding LIMIT entries.
- m	mmap	It is used to ignore the compatibility with BSD, and GNU locate.
-0	null	It is used to separate the entries on output using the ASCII NUL character instead of writing each entry on a separate line.
-S	statistics	It is used to write statistics about each read database to standard output instead of searching for files.
- r	regexp REGEXP	It is used for searching a basic regexp REGEXP.
regex	-	It is used to describe all PATTERNs as extended regular expressions.
- V	version	It is used to display the version and license information.
- W	wholename	It is used for matching only the whole path name in specified patterns.

The iostat command

The iostat command in Linux is used for monitoring system input/output statistics for devices and partitions. It monitors system input/output by observing the time the devices are active in relation to their average transfer rates. The iostat produce reports may be used to change the system configuration to raised balance the input/output between the physical disks. iostat is being included in sysstat package. If you don't have it, you need to install first.

Syntax:

Examples:

1. Display a single history-since-boot report for all CPU and Devices:

```
iostat -d 2
```

2. Display a continuous device report at two-second intervals:

```
iostat -d 2 6
```

3.Display, for all devices, six reports at two-second intervals:

```
iostat -x sda sdb 2 6
```

4.Display, for devices sda and sdb, six extended reports at two-second intervals:

iostat -p sda 2 6

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Description
- X	Show more details statistics information.
- C	Show only the cpu statistic.
- d	Display only the device report
`-xd	Show extended I/O statistic for device only.
-k	Capture the statistics in kilobytes or megabytes.
-k23	Display cpu and device statistics with delay.
-j ID mmcbkl0 sda6 -x -m 2 2	Display persistent device name statistics.
- p	Display statistics for block devices.
- N	Display lvm2 statistic information.

The sudo command

The sudo ("substitute user do" or "super user do") command allows a user with proper permissions to execute a command as another user, such as the superuser.

This is the equivalent of "run as administrator" option in Windows. The sudo command allows you to elevate your current user account to have root privileges. Also, the root privilege in sudo is only valid for a temporary amount of time. Once that time expires, you have to enter your password again to regain root privilege.

WARNING: Be very careful when using the <u>sudo</u> command. You can cause irreversible and catastrophic changes while acting as root!

Syntax:

sudo [-OPTION] command

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Flag Description

- The -V (version) option causes sudo to print the version number and exit. If the invoking user is already root, the -V option prints out a list of the defaults sudo was compiled with and the machine's local network addresses
- The -I (list) option prints out the commands allowed (and forbidden) the user on the current host.

Flag Description

- The -L (list defaults) option lists out the parameters set in a -L Defaults line with a short description for each. This option is
- useful in conjunction with grep.
- -h The -h (help) option causes sudo to print a usage message and exit.
 - If given the -v (validate) option, sudo updates the user's
- timestamp, prompting for the user's password if necessary. This extends the sudo timeout for another 5 minutes (or whatever the timeout is set to in sudoers) but does not run a command.
- The -K (sure kill) option to sudo removes the user's timestamp entirely. Likewise, this option does not require a password.
 - The -u (user) option causes sudo to run the specified command
- -u as a user other than root. To specify a uid instead of a username, use #uid.
 - The -s (shell) option runs the shell specified by the SHELL
- -s environment variable if it's set or the shell as specified in the file passwd.
- The -- flag indicates that sudo should stop processing command line arguments. It is most useful in conjunction with the -s flag.

Examples

This command switches your command prompt to the BASH shell as a root user:

sudo bash

Your command line should change to:

```
root@hostname:/home/[username]
```

Adding a string of text to a file is often used to add the name of a software repository to the sources file, without opening the file for editing. Use the following syntax with echo, sudo and tee command:

```
echo 'string-of-text' | sudo tee -a [path_to_file]
```

Example:

```
echo "deb http://nginx.org/packages/debian `lsb_release -cs`
nginx" \ | sudo tee /etc/apt/sources.list.d/nginx.list
```

The apt command

apt (Advantage package system) command is used for interacting with dpkg (packaging system used by debian). There is already the dpkg command to manage .deb packages. But apt is a more user-friendly and efficient way.

In simple terms apt is a command used for installing, deleting and performing other operations on debian based Linux.

You will be using the apt command mostly with sudo privileges.

Installing packages:

install followed by package_name is used with apt to install a new package.

Syntax:

sudo apt install package_name

Example:

sudo apt install g++

This command will install g++ on your system.

Removing packages:

remove followed by package_name is used with apt to remove a specific package.

Syntax:

```
sudo apt remove package_name
```

Example:

```
sudo apt remove g++
```

This command will remove g++ from your system.

Searching for a package:

search followed by the package_name used with apt to search a package across all repositories.

Syntax:

```
apt search package_name
```

note: sudo not required

Example:

```
apt search g++
```

Removing unused packages:

Whenever a new package that depends on other packages is installed on the system, the package dependencies will be installed too. When the package is removed, the dependencies will stay on the system. This leftover packages are no longer used by anything else and can be removed.

Syntax:

sudo apt autoremove

This command will remove all unused from your system.

Updating package index:

apt package index is nothing but a database that stores records of available packages that are enabled on your system.

Syntax:

sudo apt update

This command will update the package index on your system.

Upgrading packages:

If you want to install the latest updates for your installed packages you may want to run this command.

Syntax:

sudo apt upgrade

The command doesn't upgrade any packages that require removal of installed packages.

If you want to upgrade a single package, pass the package name:

Syntax:

sudo apt upgrade package_name

This command will upgrade your packages to the latest version.

The yum command

The yumcommand is the primary package management tool for installing, updating, removing, and managing software packages in Red Hat Enterprise Linux. It is an acronym for Yellow Dog Updater, Modified.

yum performs dependency resolution when installing, updating, and removing software packages. It can manage packages from installed repositories in the system or from .rpm packages.

Syntax:

yum -option command

Examples:

1. To see an overview of what happened in past transactions:

yum history

2. To undo a previous transaction:

yum history undo <id>

3. To install firefox package with 'yes' as a response to all

confirmations

```
yum -y install firefox
```

4. To update the mysql package it to the latest stable version

yum update mysql

Commonly used commands along with yum:

Command	Description
install	Installs the specified packages
remove	Removes the specified packages
search	Searches package metadata for keywords
info	Lists the description
update	Updates each package to the latest version
repolist	Lists repositories
history	Displays what has happened in past transactions
groupinstall	To install a particular package group
clean	To clean all cached files from enabled repository

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- C	cacheonly	Runs entirely from system cache, doesn't update the cache and use it even in case it is expired.
-	security	Includes packages that provide a fix for a security issue. Applicable for the upgrade command.
- y	assumeyes	Automatically answer yes for all questions.

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
-	skip-broken	Resolves depsolve problems by removing packages that are causing problems from the transaction. It is an alias for the strict configuration option with value False.
- V	verbose	Verbose operation, show debug messages.

The zip command

The zip command is used to compress files and reduce their size. It outputs an archive containing one or more compressed files or directories.

Examples:

In order to compress a single file with the zip command the syntax would be the following:

```
zip myZipFile.zip filename.txt
```

This also works with multiple files as well:

```
zip multipleFiles.zip file1.txt file2.txt
```

If you are compressing a whole directory, don't forget to add the -r flag:

```
zip -r zipFolder.zip myFolder/
```

Syntax:

zip [OPTION] zipFileName filesList

Possible options:

Flag Description

- Removes the file from the zip archive. After creating a zip file, you can remove a file from the archive using the -d option
 Updates the file in the zip archive. This option can be used to update the specified list of files or add new files to the existing
- zip file. Update an existing entry in the zip archive only if it has been modified more recently than the version already in the zip archive.
- -m Deletes the original files after zipping.
 - To zip a directory recursively, it will recursively zip the files in a
- -r directory. This option helps to zip all the files present in the specified directory.
- Exclude the files in creating the zip
 Verbose mode or print diagnostic version info. Normally, when applied to real operations, this option enables the display of a
- progress indicator during compression and requests verbose diagnostic info about zip file structure oddities

The unzip command

The unzip command extracts all files from the specified ZIP archive to the current directory.

Examples:

In order to extract the files the syntax would be the following:

```
unzip myZipFile.zip
```

To unzip a ZIP file to a different directory than the current one, don't forget to add the -d flag:

```
unzip myZipFile.zip -d /path/to/directory
```

To unzip a ZIP file and exclude specific file or files or directories from being extracted, don't forget to add the -x flag:

```
unzip myZipFile.zip -x file1.txt file2.txt
```

Syntax:

```
unzip zipFileName [OPTION] [PARAMS]
```

Possible options:

Flag	Description	Params
- d	Unzip an archive to a different directory.	/path/to/directory
- X	Extract the archive but do not extract the specified files.	filename(s)
- j	Unzip without creating new folders, if the zipped archive contains a folder structure.	-
-1	Lists the contents of an archive file without extracting it.	-
- n	Do not overwrite existing files; supply an alternative filename instead.	-
- O	Overwrite files.	-
- P	Supplies a password to unzip a protected archive file.	password
- q	Unzips without writing status messages to the standard output.	-
-t	Tests whether an archive file is valid.	-
- V	Displays detailed (verbose) information about the archive without extracting it.	-

The shutdown command

The shutdown command lets you bring your system down in a secure way. When shutdown is executed the system will notify all logged-in users and disallow further logins. You have the option to shut down your system immediately or after a specific time.

Only users with root (or sudo) privileges can use the shutdown command.

Examples:

1. Shut down your system immediately:

sudo shutdown now

2. Shut down your system after 10 minutes:

```
sudo shutdown +10
```

3. Shut down your system with a message after 5 minutes:

```
sudo shutdown +5 "System will shutdown in 5 minutes"
```

Syntax:

shutdown [OPTIONS] [TIME] [MESSAGE]

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag Long Flag Description

- r - Reboot the system

- c - Cancel an scheduled shut down

The dir command

The dir command lists the contents of a directory(the current directory by default). It differs from Is command in the format of listing the content. By default, the dir command lists the files and folders in columns, sorted vertically and special characters are represented by backslash escape sequences.

Syntax:

```
dir [OPTIONS] [FILE]
```

Examples:

1. To list files in the current directory:

```
dir
```

2. To list even the hidden files in the current directory:

```
dir -a
```

3. To list the content with detailed information for each entry

```
dir -l
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
-a	all	It displays all the hidden files(starting with .) along with two files denoted by . and
- A	almost-all	It is similar to -a option except that it does not display files that signals the current directory and previous directory.
-1	-	Display detailed information for each entry
- S	size	Print the allocated size of each file, in blocks File
-h	human-readable	Used with with -l and -s, to print sizes like in human readable format like 1K, 2M and so on
-F	-	Classifies entries into their type based on appended symbol (/, *, @, %, =)
- V	verbose	Print source and destination files
-	group-directories-first	To group directories before files
-R	recursive	To List subdirectories recursively.
-S	-	sort by file size, display largest first

The reboot Command

The reboot command is used to restart a linux system. However, it requires elevated permission using the <u>sudo</u> command. Necessity to use this command usually arises after significant system or network updates have been made to the system.

Syntax

```
reboot [OPTIONS...]
```

Options

- -help: This option prints a short help text and exit.
- -halt : This command will stop the machine.
- -w, -wtmp-only: This option only writes wtmp shutdown entry, it do not actually halt, power-off, reboot.

Examples

1. Basic Usage. Mainly used to restart without any further details

```
$ sudo reboot
```

However, alternatively the shutdown command with the -r option

```
$ sudo shutdown -r now
```

Note that the usage of the reboot, halt and power off is almost similar in syntax and effect. Run each of these commands with -help to see the details.

2. The reboot command has limited usage, and the shutdown command is being used instead of reboot command to fulfill much more advance reboot and shutdown requirements. One of those situations is a scheduled restart. Syntax is as follows

```
$ sudo shutdown -r [TIME] [MESSAGE]
```

Here the TIME has various formats. The simplest one is now, already been listed in the previous section, and tells the system to restart immediately. Other valid formats we have are +m, where m is the number of minutes we need to wait until restart and HH:MM which specifies the TIME in a 24hr clock.

Example to reboot the system in 2 minutes

```
$ sudo shutdown -r +2
```

Example of a scheduled restart at 03:00 A.M

```
$ sudo shutdown -r 03:00
```

3. Cancelling a Reboot. Usually happens in case one wants to cancel a scheduled restart

Syntax

```
$ sudo shutdown -c [MESSAGE]
```

Usage

\$sudo shutdown -c "Scheduled reboot cancelled because the chicken crossed the road"

4. Checking your reboot logs

\$ last reboot

The sort command

the **sort** command is used to sort a file, arranging the records in a particular order. By default, the sort command sorts a file assuming the contents are ASCII. Using options in the sort command can also be used to sort numerically.

Examples:

Suppose you create a data file with name file.txt:

```
Command:

$ cat > file.txt
abhishek
chitransh
satish
rajan
naveen
divyam
harsh
```

Sorting a file: Now use the sort command

Syntax:

```
sort filename.txt
```

```
Command:
$ sort file.txt

Output:
abhishek
chitransh
divyam
harsh
naveen
rajan
satish
```

Note: This command does not actually change the input file, i.e. file.txt.

The sort function on a file with mixed case content

i.e. uppercase and lower case: When we have a mix file with both uppercase and lowercase letters then first the upper case letters would be sorted following with the lower case letters.

Example:

Create a file mix.txt

```
Command:
$ cat > mix.txt
abc
apple
BALL
Abc
bat
```

Now use the sort command

```
Command :
$ sort mix.txt
Output :
Abc
BALL
abc
apple
bat
```

The paste command

The paste command writes lines of two or more files, sequentially and separated by TABs, to the standard output

Syntax:

```
paste [OPTIONS]... [FILE]...
```

Examples:

1. To paste two files

```
paste file1 file2
```

2. To paste two files using new line as delimiter

```
paste -d '\n' file1 file2
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- d	delimiter	use charater of TAB
- S	serial	paste one file at a time instead of in parallel

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- Z	zero-terminated	set line delimiter to NUL, not newline
	help	print command help
	version	print version information

The exit command

The exit command is used to terminate (close) an active shell session

Syntax:

exit

Shortcut: Instead of typing exit, press ctrl + D, it will do the same Functionality.

The diff/sdiff command

This command is used to display the differences in the files by comparing the files line by line.

Syntax:

```
diff [options] File1 File2
```

Example

1. Lets say we have two files with names a.txt and b.txt containing 5 Indian states as follows-:

```
$ cat a.txt
Gujarat
Uttar Pradesh
Kolkata
Bihar
Jammu and Kashmir

$ cat b.txt
Tamil Nadu
Gujarat
Andhra Pradesh
Bihar
Uttar pradesh
```

On typing the diff command we will get below output.

```
$ diff a.txt b.txt
0a1
> Tamil Nadu
2,3c3
< Uttar Pradesh
  Andhra Pradesh
5c5
  Uttar pradesh</pre>
```

Flags and their Functionalities

Short Flag	Description
- C	To view differences in context mode, use the -c option.
-u	To view differences in unified mode, use the -u option. It is similar to context mode
-i	By default this command is case sensitive. To make this command case in-sensitive use -i option with diff.
-version	This option is used to display the version of diff which is currently running on your system.

The tar command

The tar command stands for tape archive, is used to create Archive and extract the Archive files. This command provides archiving functionality in Linux. We can use tar command to create compressed or uncompressed Archive files and also maintain and modify them.

Examples:

1. To create a tar file in abel directory:

```
tar -cvf file-14-09-12.tar /home/abel/
```

2. To un-tar a file in the current directory:

```
tar -xvf file-14-09-12.tar
```

Syntax:

tar [options] [archive-file] [file or directory to be archived

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Use Flag	Description	
- C	Creates Archive	
- X	Extract the archive	

Use Flag	Description
-f	Creates archive with given filename
-t	Displays or lists files in archived file
- u	Archives and adds to an existing archive file
- V	Displays Verbose Information
- A	Concatenates the archive files
- Z	zip, tells tar command that creates tar file using gzip
- j	Filter archive tar file using tbzip
W	Verify a archive file
r	update or add file or directory in already existed .tar file
-?	Displays a short summary of the project
- d	Find the difference between an archive and file system
usage	shows available tar options
version	Displays the installed tar version
show-defaults	Shows default enabled options

Option Flag	Description
check-device	Check device numbers during incremental archive
-g	Used to allow compatibility with GNU- format incremental ackups
hole-detection	Used to detect holes in the sparse files
-G	Used to allow compatibility with old GNU-format incremental backups
ignore-failed-read	Don't exit the program on file read errors
level	Set the dump level for created archives
-n	Assume the archive is seekable
no-check-device	Do not check device numbers when creating archives
no-seek	Assume the archive is not seekable

Option Flag	Description
occurrence=N	`Process only the Nth occurrence of each file
restrict	`Disable use of potentially harmful options
sparse-version=MAJOR,M	Set version of the sparce format to use
-S	Handle sparse files efficiently.
Overwright control Flag	Description
-k	Don't replace existing files
keep-newer-files	Don't replace existing files that are newer than the archives version
keep-directory-symlink	Don't replace existing symlinks
no-overwrite-dir	Preserve metadata of existing directories
one-top-level=DIR	Extract all files into a DIR
overwrite	Overwrite existing files
overwrite-dir	Overwrite metadata of directories
recursive-unlink	Recursivly remove all files in the directory before extracting
remove-files	Remove files after adding them to a directory
skip-old-files	Don't replace existing files when extracting
-u	Remove each file before extracting over it
-W	Verify the archive after writing it

The gunzip command

The gunzip command is an antonym command of gzip command. In other words, it decompresses files deflated by the gzip command.

gunzip takes a list of files on its command line and replaces each file whose name ends with .gz, -gz, .z, -z, or _z (ignoring case) and which begins with the correct magic number with an uncompressed file without the original extension. gunzip also recognizes the special extensions .tgz and .taz as shorthands for .tar.gz and .tar.Z respectively.

Examples:

1. Uncompress a file

```
gunzip filename.gz
```

2. Recursively uncompress content inside a directory, that match extension (suffix) compressed formats accepted by gunzip:

```
gunzip -r directory_name/
```

3. Uncompress all files in the current/working directory whose suffix match .tgz:

```
gunzip -S .tgz *
```

4. List compressed and uncompressed sizes, compression ratio and uncompressed name of input compressed file/s:

```
gunzip -l file_1 file_2
```

Syntax:

```
gunzip [ -acfhklLnNrtvV ] [-S suffix] [ name ... ]
```

Video tutorial about using gzip, gunzip and tar commands:

<u>This video</u> shows how to compress and decompress in a Unix shell. It uses <u>gunzip</u> as decompression command.

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
-C	stdout	write on standard output, keep original files unchanged
-h	help	give help information
-k	keep	keep (don't delete) input files
-1	list	list compressed file contents
-q	quiet	suppress all warnings
-r	recursive	operate recursively on directories
-S	suffix=SUF	use suffix SUF on compressed files

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
	synchronous	synchronous output (safer if system crashes, but slower)
-t	test	test compressed file integrity
-V	verbose	verbose mode
-V	version	display version number

The hostnamectl command

The hostnamectl command provides a proper API used to control Linux system hostname and change its related settings. The command also helps to change the hostname without actually locating and editing the /etc/hostname file on a given system.

Syntax

```
$ hostnamectl [OPTIONS...] COMMAND ...
```

where **COMMAND** can be any of the following

status: Used to check the current hostname settings

set-hostname NAME: Used to set system hostname

set-icon-name NAME: Used to set icon name for host

Example

1. Basic usage to view the current hostnames

```
$ hostnamectl
```

or

```
$ hostnamectl status
```

2. To change the static host name to *myhostname*. It may or may not require root access

```
$ hostnamectl set-hostname myhostname --static
```

3. To set or change a transient hostname

```
$ hostnamectl set-hostname myotherhostname --transient
```

4. To set the pretty hostname. The name that is to be set needs to be in the double quote(" ").

```
$ hostname set-hostname "prettyname" --pretty
```

The iptables Command

The iptables command is used to set up and maintain tables for the Netfilter firewall for IPv4, included in the Linux kernel. The firewall matches packets with rules defined in these tables and then takes the specified action on a possible match.

Syntax:

```
iptables --table TABLE -A/-C/-D... CHAIN rule --jump Target
```

Example and Explanation:

This command will append to the chain provided in parameters:

```
iptables [-t table] --append [chain] [parameters]
```

This command drops all the traffic coming on any port:

```
iptables -t filter --append INPUT -j DROP
```

Flags and their Functionalities:

Flag Description

Check if a rule is present in the chain or not. It returns 0 if the rule exists and returns 1 if it does not.

Flag Description

-A Append to the chain provided in parameters.

The netstat command

The term netstat stands for Network Statistics. In layman's terms, netstat command displays the current network connections, networking protocol statistics, and a variety of other interfaces.

Check if you have netstat on your PC:

```
netstat -v
```

If you don't have netstat installed on your PC, you can install it with the following command:

```
sudo apt install net-tools
```

You can use netstat command for some use cases given below:

 Netstat command with -nr flag shows the routing table detail on the terminal.

Example:

```
netstat -nr
```

• Netstat command with -i flag shows statistics for the currently configured network interfaces. This command will display the first

10 lines of file foo.txt.

Example:

```
netstat -i
```

• Netstat command with -tunlp will gives a list of networks, their current states, and their associated ports.

Example:

```
netstat -tunlp
```

 You can get the list of all TCP port connection by using -at with netstat.

```
netstat -at
```

 You can get the list of all UDP port connection by using -au with netstat.

```
netstat -au
```

 You can get the list of all active connection by using -l with netstat.

```
netstat -l
```

The lsof command

The lsof command shows **file infomation** of all the files opened by a running process. It's name is also derived from the fact that, list open files > lsof

An open file may be a regular file, a directory, a block special file, a character special file, an executing text reference, a library, a stream or a network file (Internet socket, NFS file or UNIX domain socket). A specific file or all the files in a file system may be selected by path.

Syntax:

lsof [-OPTION] [USER_NAME]

Examples:

1. To show all the files opened by all active processes:

lsof

2. To show the files opened by a particular user:

```
lsof -u [USER_NAME]
```

3. To list the processes with opened files under a specified directory:

```
lsof +d [PATH_TO_DIR]
```

Options and their Functionalities:

Option Additional Options Description

-i	tcp/udp/:port	Additionally, on udp/tcp or on specified port.
-i4	-	List all processes with ipv4 connections.
-i6	-	List all processes with ipv6 connections.
- C	[PROCESS_NAME]	List all the files of a particular process with given name.
- p	[PROCESS_ID]	List all the files opened by a specified process id.
- p	^[PROCESS_ID]	List all the files that are not opened by a specified process id.
+d	[PATH]	List the processes with opened files under a specified directory
+R	-	List the files opened by parent process Id.

Help Command

Run below command to view the complete guide to lsof command.

man lsof

The bzip2 command

The bzip2 command lets you compress and decompress the files i.e. it helps in binding the files into a single file which takes less storage space as the original file use to take.

Syntax:

```
bzip2 [OPTIONS] filenames ...
```

Note: Each file is replaced by a compressed version of itself, with the name original name of the file followed by extension bz2.

Options and their Functionalities:

Option Alias		Description
- d	decompress	to decompress compressed file
- f	force	to force overwrite an existing output file
- h	help	to display the help message and exit
-k	keep	to enable file compression, doesn't deletes the original input file
-L	license	to display the license terms and conditions
- q	quiet	to suppress non-essential warning messages
-t	test	to check integrity of the specified .bz2 file, but don't want to decompress them
- V	erbose	to display details for each compression operation

Option Alias		Description	
- V	version	to display the software version	
- Z	compress	to enable file compression, but deletes the original input file	

By default, when bzip2 compresses a file, it deletes the original (or input) file. However, if you don't want that to happen, use the -k command line option.

Examples:

1. To force compression:

```
bzip2 -z input.txt
```

Note: This option deletes the original file also

2. To force compression and also retain original input file:

```
bzip2 -k input.txt
```

3. To force decompression:

```
bzip2 -d input.txt.bz2
```

4. To test integrity of compressed file:

```
bzip2 -t input.txt.bz2
```

5. To show the compression ratio for each file processed:

bzip2 -v input.txt

The service command

Service runs a System V init script in as predictable environment as possible, removing most environment variables and with current working directory set to /.

The SCRIPT parameter specifies a System V init script, located in /etc/init.d/SCRIPT. The supported values of COMMAND depend on the invoked script, service passes COMMAND and OPTIONS it to the init script unmodified. All scripts should support at least the start and stop commands. As a special case, if COMMAND is --full-restart, the script is run twice, first with the stop command, then with the start command.

The COMMAND can be at least start, stop, status, and restart.

service --status-all runs all init scripts, in alphabetical order, with the status command

Examples :

1. To check the status of all the running services:

```
service --status-all
```

2. To run a script

service SCRIPT-Name start

3. A more generalized command:

service [SCRIPT] [COMMAND] [OPTIONS]

The vmstat command

The vmstat command lets you monitor the performance of your system. It shows you information about your memory, disk, processes, CPU scheduling, paging, and block IO. This command is also referred to as virtual memory statistic report.

The very first report that is produced shows you the average details since the last reboot and after that, other reports are made which report over time.

vmstat



As you can see it is a pretty useful little command. The most important things that we see above are the free, which shows us the free space that is not being used, si shows us how much memory is swapped in every second in kB, and so shows how much memory is swapped out each second in kB as well.

vmstat -a

If we run vmstat -a, it will show us the active and inactive memory of the system running.

×

vmstat -d

The vmstat -d command shows us all the disk statistics.



As you can see this is a pretty useful little command that shows you different statistics about your virtual memory

The mpstat command

The mpstat command is used to report processor related statistics. It accurately displays the statistics of the CPU usage of the system and information about CPU utilization and performance.

Syntax:

```
mpstat [options] [<interval> [<count>]]
```

Note: It initializes the first processor with CPU 0, the second one with CPU 1, and so on.

Options and their Functionalities:

Option	Description
- A	to display all the detailed statistics
- h	to display mpstat help
-I	to display detailed interrupts statistics
-n	to report summary CPU statistics based on NUMA node placement
- N	to indicate the NUMA nodes for which statistics are to be reported
-P	to indicate the processors for which statistics are to be reported
-0	to display the statistics in JSON (Javascript Object Notation) format
-T	to display topology elements in the CPU report

Option

Description

- u to report CPU utilization
- -v to display utilization statistics at the virtual processor level
- -V to display mpstat version
- -ALL to display detailed statistics about all CPUs

Examples:

1. To display processor and CPU statistics:

mpstat

2. To display processor number of all CPUs:

mpstat -P ALL

3. To get all the information which the tool may collect:

mpstat -A

4. To display CPU utilization by a specific processor:

mpstat -P 0

5. To display CPU usage with a time interval:

mpstat 1 5

Note: This command will print 5 reports with 1 second time

interval

The ncdu Command

ncdu (NCurses Disk Usage) is a curses-based version of the well-known du command. It provides a fast way to see what directories are using your disk space.

Example

1. Quiet Mode

2. Omit mounted directories

Syntax

ncdu [-hqvx] [--exclude PATTERN] [-X FILE] dir

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- h	-	Print a small help message
- q	-	Quiet mode. While calculating disk space, ncdu will update the screen 10 times a second by default, this will be decreased to once every 2 seconds in quiet mode. Use this feature to save bandwidth over remote connections.
- V	-	Print version.
- X	-	Only count files and directories on the same filesystem as the specified dir.
-	exclude PATTERN	Exclude files that match PATTERN. This argument can be added multiple times to add more patterns.
-X FILE	exclude-from FILE	Exclude files that match any pattern in FILE. Patterns should be separated by a newline.

The uniq command

The uniq command in Linux is a command line utility that reports or filters out the repeated lines in a file. In simple words, uniq is the tool that helps you to detect the adjacent duplicate lines and also deletes the duplicate lines. It filters out the adjacent matching lines from the input file(that is required as an argument) and writes the filtered data to the output file.

Examples:

In order to omit the repeated lines from a file, the syntax would be the following:

```
uniq kt.txt
```

In order to tell the number of times a line was repeated, the syntax would be the following:

```
uniq -c kt.txt
```

In order to print repeated lines, the syntax would be the following:

```
uniq -d kt.txt
```

In order to print unique lines, the syntax would be the following:

```
uniq -u kt.txt
```

In order to allows the N fields to be skipped while comparing uniqueness of the lines, the syntax would be the following:

```
uniq -f 2 kt.txt
```

In order to allows the N characters to be skipped while comparing uniqueness of the lines, the syntax would be the following:

```
uniq -s 5 kt.txt
```

In order to to make the comparison case-insensitive, the syntax would be the following:

```
uniq -i kt.txt
```

Syntax:

```
uniq [OPTION] [INPUT[OUTPUT]]
```

Possible options:

Flag	Description	Params
- C	It tells how many times a line was repeated by displaying a number as a prefix with the line.	-
- d	It only prints the repeated lines and not the lines which aren't repeated.	-

Flag	Description	Params
-i	By default, comparisons done are case sensitive but with this option case insensitive comparisons can be made.	-
-f	It allows you to skip N fields(a field is a group of characters, delimited by whitespace) of a line before determining uniqueness of a line.	N
- S	It doesn't compares the first N characters of each line while determining uniqueness. This is like the -f option, but it skips individual characters rather than fields.	N
- U	It allows you to print only unique lines.	-
- Z	It will make a line end with 0 byte(NULL), instead of a newline.	-
-W	It only compares N characters in a line.	N
help	It displays a help message and exit.	-
version	It displays version information and exit.	-

The RPM command

rpm - RPM Package Manager

rpm is a powerful **Package Manager**, which can be used to build, install, query, verify, update, and erase individual software packages. A **package** consists of an archive of files and meta-data used to install and erase the archive files. The meta-data includes helper scripts, file attributes, and descriptive information about the package. Packages come in two varieties: binary packages, used to encapsulate software to be installed, and source packages, containing the source code and recipe necessary to produce binary packages.

One of the following basic modes must be selected: Query, Verify, Signature Check, Install/Upgrade/Freshen, Uninstall, Initialize Database, Rebuild Database, Resign, Add Signature, Set Owners/Groups, Show Querytags, and Show Configuration.

General Options

These options can be used in all the different modes.

Shor Flag	I ONG FIAG	Description
-?	help	Print a longer usage message then normal.
	version	Print a single line containing the version number of rpm being used.
	quiet	Print as little as possible - normally only error messages will be displayed.
-V		Print verbose information - normally routine progress messages will be displayed.
-VV		Print lots of ugly debugging information.

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
	rcfile FILELIST	Each of the files in the colon separated FILELIST is read sequentially by rpm for configuration information. Only the first file in the list must exist, and tildes will be expanded to the value of \$HOME. The default FILELIST is /usr/lib/rpm/rpmrc:/usr/lib/rpm/redhat/rpmrc:/etc/rpmrc:~/.rpmrc.
	pipe CMD	Pipes the output of rpm to the command CMD.
	dbpath DIRECTORY	Use the database in DIRECTORY rather than the default path /var/lib/rpm
	root DIRECTORY	Use the file system tree rooted at DIRECTORY for all operations. Note that this means the database within DIRECTORY will be used for dependency checks and any scriptlet(s) (e.g. %post if installing, or %prep if building, a package) will be run after a chroot(2) to DIRECTORY.
-D	define='MACRO EXPR'	Defines MACRO with value EXPR.
-E	eval='EXPR'	Prints macro expansion of EXPR.

Synopsis

Querying and Verifying Packages:

```
rpm {-q|--query} [select-options] [query-options]
rpm {-V|--verify} [select-options] [verify-options]
rpm --import PUBKEY ...
rpm {-K|--checksig} [--nosignature] [--nodigest] PACKAGE_FILE
...
```

Installing, Upgrading, and Removing Packages:

```
rpm {-i|--install} [install-options] PACKAGE_FILE ...

rpm {-U|--upgrade} [install-options] PACKAGE_FILE ...

rpm {-F|--freshen} [install-options] PACKAGE_FILE ...

rpm {-e|--erase} [--allmatches] [--nodeps] [--noscripts] [--notriggers] [--test] PACKAGE_NAME ...
```

Miscellaneous:

```
rpm {--initdb|--rebuilddb}
rpm {--addsign|--resign} PACKAGE_FILE...
rpm {--querytags|--showrc}
rpm {--setperms|--setugids} PACKAGE_NAME .
```

query-options

```
[--changelog] [-c,--configfiles] [-d,--docfiles] [--dump]
[--filesbypkg] [-i,--info] [--last] [-l,--list]
[--provides] [--qf,--queryformat QUERYFMT]
[-R,--requires] [--scripts] [-s,--state]
[--triggers,--triggerscripts]
```

verify-options

```
[--nodeps] [--nofiles] [--noscripts]
[--nodigest] [--nosignature]
[--nolinkto] [--nofiledigest] [--nosize] [--nouser]
[--nogroup] [--nomtime] [--nomode] [--nordev]
[--nocaps]
```

install-options

```
[--aid] [--allfiles] [--badreloc] [--excludepath OLDPATH]
[--excludedocs] [--force] [-h,--hash]
[--ignoresize] [--ignorearch] [--ignoreos]
[--includedocs] [--justdb] [--nodeps]
[--nodigest] [--nosignature] [--nosuggest]
[--noorder] [--noscripts] [--notriggers]
[--oldpackage] [--percent] [--prefix NEWPATH]
[--relocate OLDPATH=NEWPATH]
[--replacefiles] [--replacepkgs]
[--test]
```

The scp command

SCP (secure copy) is a command-line utility that allows you to securely copy files and directories between two locations.

Both the files and passwords are encrypted so that anyone snooping on the traffic doesn't get anything sensitive.

Different ways to copy a file or directory:

- From local system to a remote system.
- From a remote system to a local system.
- Between two remote systems from the local system.

Examples:

1. To copy the files from a local system to a remote system:

```
scp /home/documents/local-file root@{remote-ip-address}:/home/
```

2. To copy the files from a remote system to the local system:

```
scp root@{remote-ip-address}:/home/remote-file
/home/documents/
```

3. To copy the files between two remote systems from the local system.

```
scp root@{remote1-ip-address}:/home/remote-file root@{remote2-
ip-address}/home/
```

4. To copy file though a jump host server.

```
scp /home/documents/local-file -oProxyJump=<jump-host-ip>
root@{remote-ip-address}/home/
```

On newer version of scp on some machines you can use the above command with a -J flag.

```
scp /home/documents/local-file -J <jump-host-ip> root@{remote-
ip-address}/home/
```

Syntax:

```
scp [OPTION] [user@]SRC_HOST:]file1 [user@]DEST_HOST:]file2
```

- OPTION scp options such as cipher, ssh configuration, ssh port, limit, recursive copy ...etc.
- [user@]SRC_HOST:]file1 Source file
- [user@]DEST_HOST:]file2 Destination file

Local files should be specified using an absolute or relative path, while remote file names should include a user and host specification.

scp provides several that control every aspect of its behaviour. The most widely used options are:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- P	-	Specifies the remote host ssh port.
- p	-	Preserves files modification and access times.
- q	-	Use this option if you want to suppress the progress meter and non-error messages.
- C	-	This option forces scp to compresses the data as it is sent to the destination machine.
-r	-	This option tells scp to copy directories recursively.

Before you begin

The scp command relies on ssh for data transfer, so it requires an ssh key or password to authenticate on the remote systems.

The colon (:) is how scp distinguish between local and remote locations.

To be able to copy files, you must have at least read permissions on the source file and write permission on the target system.

Be careful when copying files that share the same name and location on both systems, scp will overwrite files without warning.

When transferring large files, it is recommended to run the scp command inside a screen or tmux session.

The sleep command

The sleep command is used to create a dummy job. A dummy job helps in delaying the execution. It takes time in seconds by default but a small suffix(s, m, h, d) can be added at the end to convert it into any other format. This command pauses the execution for an amount of time which is defined by NUMBER.

Note: If you will define more than one NUMBER with sleep command then this command will delay for the sum of the values.

Examples:

1. To sleep for 10s

sleep 10s

2. A more generalized command:

sleep NUMBER[SUFFIX]...

Options

It accepts the following options:

- 1. --help display this help and exit
- 2. --version output version information and exit

The split command

The split command in Linux is used to split a file into smaller files.

Examples

1. Split a file into a smaller file using file name

```
split filename.txt
```

2. Split a file named filename into segments of 200 lines beginning with prefix file

```
split -l 200 filename file
```

This will create files of the name fileaa, fileab, fileac, filead, etc. of 200 lines.

3. Split a file named filename into segments of 40 bytes with prefix file

```
split -b 40 filename file
```

This will create files of the name fileaa, fileab, fileac, filead, etc. of 40 bytes.

4. Split a file using --verbose to see the files being created.

```
split filename.txt --verbose
```

Syntax:

split [options] filename [prefix]

Additional Flags and their Functionalities

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- a	suffix-length=N	Generate suffixes of length N (default 2)
	additional-suffix=SUFFIX	Append an additional SUFFIX to file names
- b	bytes=SIZE	Put SIZE bytes per output file
- C	line-bytes=SIZE	Put at most SIZE bytes of records per output file
- d		Use numeric suffixes starting at 0, not alphabetic
	numeric-suffixes[=FROM]	Same as -d, but allow setting the start value
- X		Use hex suffixes starting at 0, not alphabetic
	hex-suffixes[=FROM]	Same as -x, but allow setting the start value
-е	elide-empty-files	Do not generate empty output files with '-n'
	filter=COMMAND	Write to shell COMMAND; file name is \$FILE
-1	lines=NUMBER	Put NUMBER lines/records per output file

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- n	number=CHUNKS	Generate CHUNKS output files; see explanation below
-t	separator=SEP	Use SEP instead of newline as the record separator; '\0' (zero) specifies the NUL character
- u	unbuffered	Immediately copy input to output with '-n r/'
	verbose	Print a diagnostic just before each output file is opened
	help	Display this help and exit
	version	Output version information and exit

The SIZE argument is an integer and optional unit (example: 10K is 10*1024). Units are K,M,G,T,P,E,Z,Y (powers of 1024) or KB,MB,... (powers of 1000).

CHUNKS may be:

CHUNKS Description

N	Split into N files based on size of input
K/N	Output Kth of N to stdout
l/N	Split into N files without splitting lines/records
l/K/N	Output Kth of N to stdout without splitting lines/records
r/N	Like 'I' but use round robin distribution
r/K/N	Likewise but only output Kth of N to stdout

The stat command

The stat command lets you display file or file system status. It gives you useful information about the file (or directory) on which you use it.

Examples:

1. Basic command usage

```
stat file.txt
```

2. Use the -c (or --format) argument to only display information you want to see (here, the total size, in bytes)

```
stat file.txt -c %s
```

Syntax:

```
stat [OPTION] [FILE]
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag		Description
-L	dereference	Follow links	

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
-f	file-system	Display file system status instead of file status
- C	format=FORMAT	Specify the format (see below)
-t	terse	Print the information in terse form
-	cached=MODE	Specify how to use cached attributes. Can be: always, never, or default
-	printf=FORMAT	Likeformat, but interpret backslash escapes (\n, \t,)
-	help	Display the help and exit
-	version	Output version information and exit

Example of Valid Format Sequences for Files:

Format	Description
%a	Permission bits in octal
%A	Permission bits and file type in human readable form
%d	Device number in decimal
%D	Device number in hex
%F	File type
%g	Group ID of owner
%G	Group name of owner
%h	Number of hard links
%i	Inode number
%m	Mount point
%n	File name
%N	Quoted file name with dereference if symbolic link
%S	Total size, in bytes
%U	User ID of owner
%U	User name of owner
%W	Time of file birth, human-readable; - if unknown
%X	Time of last access, human-readable

Format

Description

- %y Time of last data modification, human-readable
- Time of last status change, human-readable

The useradd command

The useradd command is used to add or update user accounts to the system.

Examples:

To add a new user with the useradd command the syntax would be the following:

useradd NewUser

To add a new user with the useradd command and give a home directory path for this new user the syntax would be the following:

useradd -d /home/NewUser NewUser

To add a new user with the useradd command and give it a specific id the syntax would be the following:

useradd -u 1234 NewUser

Syntax:

useradd [OPTIONS] NameOfUser

Possible options:

Flag	Description	Params
- d	The new user will be created using /path/to/directory as the value for the user's login directory	/path/to/directory
- u	The numerical value of the user's ID	ID
- g	Create a user with specific group id	GroupID
- M	Create a user without home directory	-
-е	Create a user with expiry date	DATE (format: YYYY-MM-DD)
- C	Create a user with a comment	COMMENT
- S	Create a user with changed login shell	/path/to/shell
- p	Set an unencrypted password for the user	PASSWORD

The userdel command

The userdel command is used to delete a user account and related files

Examples:

To delete a user with the userdel command the syntax would be the following:

userdel userName

To force the removal of a user account even if the user is still logged in, using the userdel command the syntax would be the following:

userdel -f userName

To delete a user along with the files in the user's home directory using the userdel command the syntax would be the following:

userdel -r userName

Syntax:

userdel [OPTIONS] userName

Possible options:

Flag Description

- -f Force the removal of the specified user account even if the user is logged in
- Remove the files in the user's home directory along with the home directory itself and the user's mail spool
- -Z Remove any SELinux(Security-Enhanced Linux) user mapping for the user's login.

The usermod command

The usermod command lets you change the properties of a user in Linux through the command line. After creating a user we sometimes have to change their attributes, like their password or login directory etc. So in order to do that we use the usermod command.

Syntax:

usermod [options] USER

Note: Only superuser (root) is allowed to execute usermod command

Options and their Functionalities:

Option Description

- -a to add anyone of the group to a secondary group
- -c to add comment field for the useraccount
- -d to modify the directory for any existing user account
- -g change the primary group for a User
- -G to add supplementary groups
- -1 to change existing user login name
- -L to lock system user account
- to move the contents of the home directory from existing home dir to new dir
- -p to create an un-encrypted password
- -s to create a specified shell for new accounts

Option Description

- -u to assigned UID for the user account
- -U to unlock any locked user

Examples:

1. To add a comment/description for a user:

```
sudo usermod -c "This is test user" test_user
```

2. To change the home directory of a user:

```
sudo usermod -d /home/sam test_user
```

3. To change the expiry date of a user:

```
sudo usermod -e 2021-10-05 test_user
```

4. To change the group of a user:

```
sudo usermod -g sam test_user
```

5. To change user login name:

```
sudo usermod -l test_account test_user
```

6. To lock a user:

```
sudo usermod -L test_user
```

7. To unlock a user:

```
sudo usermod -U test_user
```

8. To set an unencrypted password for the user:

```
sudo usermod -p test_password test_user
```

9. To create a shell for the user:

```
sudo usermod -s /bin/sh test_user
```

10. To change the user id of a user:

```
sudo usermod -u 1234 test_user
```

The ionice command

The ionice command is used to set or get process I/O scheduling class and priority.

If no arguments are given , **ionice** will query the current I/O scheduling class and priority for that process.

Usage

```
ionice [options] -p <pid>
ionice [options] -P <pgid>

ionice [options] -u <uid>

ionice [options] <command>
```

A process can be of three scheduling classes:

Idle

A program with idle I/O priority will only get disk time when no other program has asked for disk I/O for a defined grace period.

The impact of idle processes on normal system actively should be zero.

This scheduling class doesn't take priority argument.

Presently this scheduling class is permitted for an ordinary user (since kernel 2.6.25).

Best Effort

This is effective scheduling class for any process that has not asked for a specific I/O priority.

This class takes priority argument from 0-7, with lower number being higher priority.

Programs running at the same best effort priority are served in round-robbin fashion.

Note that before kernel 2.6.26 a process that has not asked for an I/O priority formally uses "None" as scheduling class, but the io schedular will treat such processes as if it were in the best effort class.

The priority within best effort class will be dynamically derived form the CPU nice level of the process: io_priority = (cpu_nice + 20) / 5/ for kernels after 2.6.26 with CFQ I/O schedular a process that has not asked for sn io priority inherits CPU scheduling class.

The I/O priority is derived from the CPU nice level of the process (smr sd before kernel 2.6.26).

Real Time

The real time schedular class is given first access to disk, regardless of what else is going on in the system.

Thus the real time class needs to be used with some care, as it cans tarve other processes .

As with the best effort class, 8 priority levels are defined denoting how big a time slice a given process will receive on each scheduling window.

This scheduling class is not permitted for an ordinary user(non-root).

Options

Options	Description
-c,class	name or number of scheduling class, 0: none, 1: realtime, 2: best-effort, 3: idle
-n,classdata	priority (07) in the specified scheduling class, only for the realtime and best-effort classes
-p,pid	act on these already running processes
-P,pgid	act on already running processes in these groups
-t,ignore	ignore failures
-u,uid	act on already running processes owned by these users
-h,help	display this help
-V,version	display version

For more details see ionice(1).

Examples

Command	O/P	Explanation
\$ ionice	none: prio 4	Running alone ionice will give the class and priority of current process
\$ ionice -p 101	none : prio 4	Give the details(class: priority) of the process specified by given process id
\$ ionice -p 2	none: prio 4	Check the class and priority of process with pid 2 it is none and 4 resp.
<pre>\$ ionice -c2 -n0 -p2</pre>	2 (best-effort) priority 0 process 2	Now lets set process(pid) 2 as a best- effort program with highest priority
\$ ionice -p 2	best-effort : prio 0	Now if I check details of Process 2 you can see the updated one
<pre>\$ ionice /bin/ls</pre>		get priority and class info of bin/ls
<pre>\$ ionice -n4 - p2</pre>		set priority 4 of process with pid 2
\$ ionice -p 2	best-effort: prio 4	Now observe the difference between the command ran above and this one we have changed priority from 0 to 4
\$ ionice -c0 - n4 -p2	ionice: ignoring given class data for none class	(Note that before kernel 2.6.26 a process that has not asked for an I/O priority formally uses "None" as scheduling class,
		but the io schedular will treat such processes as if it were in the best effort class.)
		-t option : ignore failure
\$ ionice -c0 - n4 -p2 -t		For ignoring the warning shown above we can use -t option so it will ignore failure

Conclusion

Thus we have successfully learnt about ionice command.

The du command

The du command, which is short for disk usage lets you retrieve information about disk space usage information in a specified directory. In order to customize the output according to the information you need, this command can be paired with the appropriate options or flags.

Examples:

1. To show the estimated size of sub-directories in the current directory:

du

2. To show the estimated size of sub-directories inside a specified directory:

```
du {PATH_TO_DIRECTORY}
```

Syntax:

```
du [OPTION]... [FILE]...
du [OPTION]... --files0-from=F
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Note: This does not include an exhaustive list of options.

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- a	all	Includes information for both files and directories
- C	total	Provides a grand total at the end of the list of files/directories
-d	max-depth=N	Provides information up to N levels from the directory where the command was executed
-h	human-readable	Displays file size in human-readable units, not in bytes
- S	summarize	Display only the total filesize instead of a list of files/directories

The ping command

The ping (Packet Internet Groper) command is a network utility used to check network connectivity between a host and a server or another host. It sends ICMP (Internet Control Message Protocol) echo requests to a specified IP address or URL and measures the time it takes to receive a response. This time delay is referred to as "latency." Ping is a fundamental tool for network troubleshooting and monitoring.

Understanding Latency

Latency, in the context of networking, is the time delay between sending a packet and receiving a response.

When you use the ping command, it measures the latency by sending a series of packets to the target host and calculating the time it takes for each packet to complete the round trip. The latency is typically measured in milliseconds (ms). Understanding latency is essential because:

- **Network Performance**: Lower latency means faster data transmission and more responsive network connections, which is critical for real-time applications.
- **Troubleshooting**: High latency can indicate network congestion, packet loss, or connectivity issues that need attention.
- Quality of Service (QoS): Service providers and network
 administrators use latency metrics to ensure that network services
 meet quality standards.

The basic ping syntax includes ping followed by a hostname, a name of a website, or the exact IP address.

ping [option] [hostname] or [IP address]

Examples:

1. To get ping version installed on your system.

```
sudo ping -v
```

2. To check whether a remote host is up, in this case, google.com, type in your terminal:

```
ping google.com
```

3. Controlling the number of packets to send: Earlier we did not define the number of packets to send to the server/host by using -c option we can do so.

```
ping -c 5 google.com
```

4. Controlling the size of the packet: Earlier a default sized packets were sent to a host but we can send light and heavy packet by using -s option.

```
ping -s 40 -c 5 google.com
```

5. Changing the time interval between ping packets: By default ping wait for 1 sec to send next packet we can change this time by using -i option.

```
ping -i 2 google.com
```

The rsync command

The **rsync** command is probably one of the most used commands out there. It is used to securely copy files from one server to another over SSH.

Compared to the scp command, which does a similar thing, rsync makes the transfer a lot faster, and in case of an interruption, you could restore/resume the transfer process.

In this tutorial, I will show you how to use the rsync command and copy files from one server to another and also share a few useful tips!

Before you get started, you would need to have 2 Linux servers. I will be using DigitalOcean for the demo and deploy 2 Ubuntu servers.

You can use my referral link to get a free \$100 credit that you could use to deploy your virtual machines and test the guide yourself on a few DigitalOcean servers:

DigitalOcean \$100 Free Credit

Transfer Files from local server to remote

This is one of the most common causes. Essentially this is how you would copy the files from the server that you are currently on (the source server) to remote/destination server.

What you need to do is SSH to the server that is holding your files, cd to the directory that you would like to transfer over:

cd /var/www/html

And then run:

rsync -avz user@your-remote-server.com:/home/user/dir/

The above command would copy all the files and directories from the current folder on your server to your remote server.

Rundown of the command:

- -a: is used to specify that you want recursion and want to preserve the file permissions and etc.
- -v: is verbose mode, it increases the amount of information you are given during the transfer.
- -z: this option, rsync compresses the file data as it is sent to the destination machine, which reduces the amount of data being transmitted -- something that is useful over a slow connection.

I recommend having a look at the following website which explains the commands and the arguments very nicely:

https://explainshell.com/explain?cmd=rsync+-avz

In case that the SSH service on the remote server is not running on the standard 22 port, you could use rsync with a special SSH port:

```
rsync -avz -e 'ssh -p 1234' user@your-remote-
server.com:/home/user/dir/
```

Transfer Files remote server to local

In some cases you might want to transfer files from your remote server to your local server, in this case, you would need to use the following syntax:

```
rsync -avz your-user@your-remote-server.com:/home/user/dir/
/home/user/local-dir/
```

Again, in case that you have a non-standard SSH port, you can use the following command:

```
rsync -avz -e 'ssh -p 2510' your-user@your-remote-
server.com:/home/user/dir/ /home/user/local-dir/
```

Transfer only missing files

If you would like to transfer only the missing files you could use the -- ignore-existing flag.

This is very useful for final sync in order to ensure that there are no missing files after a website or a server migration.

Basically the commands would be the same apart from the appended -- ignore-existing flag:

```
rsync -avz --ignore-existing user@your-remote-
server.com:/home/user/dir/
```

Conclusion

Using rsync is a great way to quickly transfer some files from one machine over to another in a secure way over SSH.

For more cool Linux networking tools, I would recommend checking out this tutorial here:

Top 15 Linux Networking tools that you should know!

Hope that this helps!

Initially posted here: <u>How to Transfer Files from One Linux Server to Another Using rsync</u>

The dig command

dig - DNS lookup utility

The dig is a flexible tool for interrogating DNS name servers. It performs DNS lookups and displays the answers that are returned from the name server(s) that were queried.

Examples:

1. Dig is a network administration command-line tool for querying the Domain Name System.

```
dig google.com
```

2. The system will list all google.com DNS records that it finds, along with the IP addresses.

```
dig google.com ANY
```

Syntax:

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

```
domain
          is in the Domain Name System
        q-class is one of (in,hs,ch,...) [default: in]
                is one of
        q-type
(a,any,mx,ns,soa,hinfo,axfr,txt,...) [default:a]
                 (Use ixfr=version for type ixfr)
        q-opt
                 is one of:
                                      (use IPv4 query transport
only)
                 - 6
                                      (use IPv6 query transport
only)
                 -b address[#port]
                                     (bind to source
address/port)
                 -c class
                                      (specify query class)
                 -f filename
                                      (batch mode)
                 -k keyfile
                                      (specify tsig key file)
                                      (enable memory usage
                 - m
debugging)
                                      (specify port number)
                 -p port
                                      (specify query name)
                 -q name
                                      (do not read ~/.digrc)
                 - r
                                      (specify query type)
                 -t type
                                      (display times in usec
                 - u
instead of msec)
                 -x dot-notation
                                     (shortcut for reverse
lookups)
                 -y [hmac:]name:key (specify named base64
tsig key)
                 is of the form +keyword[=value], where
        d-opt
keyword is:
                                     (Set AA flag in query
                 +[no]aaflag
(+[no]aaflag))
                 +[no]aaonly
                                     (Set AA flag in query
(+[no]aaflag))
                 +[no]additional
                                     (Control display of
additional section)
                                     (Set AD flag in query
                 +[no]adflag
(default on))
                 +[no]all
                                     (Set or clear all display
flags)
                 +[no]answer
                                     (Control display of
```

```
answer section)
                 +[no]authority
                                      (Control display of
authority section)
                 +[no]badcookie
                                      (Retry BADCOOKIE
responses)
                 +[no]besteffort
                                      (Try to parse even
illegal messages)
                                      (Set EDNSO Max UDP packet
                 +bufsize[=###]
size)
                                      (Set checking disabled
                 +[no]cdflag
flag in query)
                 +[no]class
                                      (Control display of class
in records)
                 +[no]cmd
                                      (Control display of
command line -
                                       global option)
                 +[no]comments
                                      (Control display of
packet header
                                       and section name
comments)
                 +[no]cookie
                                      (Add a COOKIE option to
the request)
                 +[no]crypto
                                      (Control display of
cryptographic
                                       fields in records)
                 +[no]defname
                                      (Use search list
(+[no]search))
                 +[no]dnssec
                                      (Request DNSSEC records)
                 +domain=###
                                      (Set default domainname)
                 +[no]dscp[=###]
                                      (Set the DSCP value to
### [0..63])
                 +[no]edns[=###]
                                      (Set EDNS version) [0]
                 +ednsflags=###
                                      (Set EDNS flag bits)
                 +[no]ednsnegotiation (Set EDNS version
negotiation)
                 +ednsopt=###[:value] (Send specified EDNS
option)
                                      (Clear list of +ednsopt
                 +noednsopt
options)
                 +[no]expandaaaa
                                      (Expand AAAA records)
                 +[no]expire
                                      (Request time to expire)
                 +[no]fail
                                      (Don't try next server on
SERVFAIL)
                 +[no]header-only
                                      (Send query without a
question section)
```

answers) +[no]idnin (Parse IDN names [default=on on tty]) +[no]idnout (Convert IDN response	
+[ilo]Idilodt (Collvert IDN response	
<pre>[default=on on tty])</pre>	or
TC responses.)	01
+[no]keepalive (Request EDNS TCP keepalive)	
+[no]keepopen (Keep the TCP socket o between queries)	pen
+[no]mapped (Allow mapped IPv4 ove	r
+[no]multiline (Print records in an	
expanded format) +ndots=### (Set search NDOTS valu	e)
+[no]nsid (Request Name Server I +[no]nssearch (Search all authoritat	
nameservers)	
+[no]onesoa (AXFR prints only one record)	
+[no]opcode=### (Set the opcode of the request)	
+padding=### (Set padding block siz [0])	e
+[no]qr (Print question before	
sending) +[no]question (Control display of	
question section) +[no]raflag (Set RA flag <u>in</u> query	
<pre>(+[no]raflag))</pre>	
(+[no]recurse))	
+[no]recurse (Recursive mode (+[no]rdflag))	
+retry=### (Set number of UDP retries) [2]	
+[no]rrcomments (Control display of percord comments)	r-
+[no]search (Set whether to use	
searchlist) +[no]short (Display nothing excep	t
short form of answers - glo	bal

```
option)
                 +[nolshowsearch
                                     (Search with intermediate
results)
                                     (Split hex/base64 fields
                 +[no]split=##
into chunks)
                 +[no]stats
                                     (Control display of
statistics)
                 +subnet=addr
                                     (Set edns-client-subnet
option)
                 +[no]tcflag
                                     (Set TC flag in query
(+[no]tcflag))
                 +[noltcp
                                     (TCP mode (+[no]vc))
                 +timeout=###
                                     (Set query timeout) [5]
                 +[no]trace
                                     (Trace delegation down
from root [+dnssec])
                 +tries=###
                                     (Set number of UDP
attempts) [3]
                 +[no]ttlid
                                     (Control display of ttls
in records)
                 +[no]ttlunits
                                     (Display TTLs in human-
readable units)
                 +[no]unexpected
                                     (Print replies from
unexpected sources
                                      default=off)
                                     (Print RDATA in RFC 3597
                 +[no]unknownformat
"unknown" format)
                 +[no]vc
                                     (TCP mode (+[no]tcp))
                 +[no]yaml
                                     (Present the results as
YAML)
                 +[no]zflag
                                     (Set Z flag in query)
        global d-opts and servers (before host name) affect
all queries.
        local d-opts and servers (after host name) affect only
that lookup.
                                     (print help and exit)
        -h
        - V
                                     (print version and exit)
```

The whois command

The whois command in Linux to find out information about a domain, such as the owner of the domain, the owner's contact information, and the nameservers that the domain is using.

Examples:

1. Performs a whois query for the domain name:

```
whois {Domain_name}
```

2. -H option omits the lengthy legal disclaimers that many domain registries deliver along with the domain information.

```
whois -H {Domain_name}
```

Syntax:

```
whois [ -h HOST ] [ -p PORT ] [ -aCFHlLMmrRSVx ] [ -g
SOURCE:FIRST-LAST ]
      [ -i ATTR ] [ -S SOURCE ] [ -T TYPE ] object
```

```
whois -t TYPE
```

```
whois -v TYPE
```

whois -q keyword

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Flag	Description
-h HOST,host HOST	Connect to HOST.
-Н	Do not display the legal disclaimers some registries like to show you.
-p,port PORT	Connect to PORT.
verbose	Be verbose.
help	Display online help.
version	Display client version information. Other options are flags understood by whois.ripe.net and some other RIPE-like servers.
-a	Also search all the mirrored databases.
-b	Return brief IP address ranges with abuse contact.
-B	Disable object filtering (show the e-mail addresses)
- C	Return the smallest IP address range with a reference to an irt object.
-d	Return the reverse DNS delegation object too.
-g SOURCE:FIRST-LAST	Search updates from SOURCE database between FIRST and LAST update serial number. It's useful to obtain Near Real Time Mirroring stream.
-G	Disable grouping of associated objects.

Flag	Description
-i ATTR[,ATTR]	Search objects having associated attributes. ATTR is attribute name. Attribute value is positional OBJECT argument.
-K	Return primary key attributes only. Exception is members attribute of set object which is always returned. Another exceptions are all attributes of objects organisation, person, and role that are never returned.
-1	Return the one level less specific object.
-L	Return all levels of less specific objects.
- m	Return all one level more specific objects.
- M	Return all levels of more specific objects.
-q KEYWORD	Return list of keywords supported by server. KEYWORD can be version for server version, sources for list of source databases, or types for object types.
-r	Disable recursive look-up for contact information.
-R	Disable following referrals and force showing the object from the local copy in the server.
-s SOURCE[,SOURCE]	Request the server to search for objects mirrored from SOURCES. Sources are delimited by comma and the order is significant. Use -q sources option to obtain list of valid sources.
-t TYPE	Return the template for a object of TYPE.
-T TYPE[,TYPE]	Restrict the search to objects of TYPE. Multiple types are separated by a comma.
-v TYPE	Return the verbose template for a object of TYPE.
- X	Search for only exact match on network address prefix.

The ssh command

The ssh command in Linux stands for "Secure Shell". It is a protocol used to securely connect to a remote server/system. ssh is more secure in the sense that it transfers the data in encrypted form between the host and the client. ssh runs at TCP/IP port 22.

Examples:

1. Use a Different Port Number for SSH Connection:

```
ssh test.server.com -p 3322
```

2. -i ssh to remote server using a private key?

```
ssh -i private.key user_name@host
```

3. -l ssh specifying a different username

```
ssh -l alternative-username sample.ssh.com
```

Syntax:

```
ssh user_name@host(IP/Domain_Name)
```

```
ssh -i private.key user_name@host
```

ssh sample.ssh.com ls /tmp/doc

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Flag	Description
-1	Forces ssh to use protocol SSH-1 only.
-2	Forces ssh to use protocol SSH-2 only.
- 4	Allows IPv4 addresses only.
- A	Authentication agent connection forwarding is enabled
- a	Authentication agent connection forwarding is disabled.
-B bind_interface	Bind to the address of bind_interface before attempting to connect to the destination host. This is only useful on systems with more than one address.
-b bind_address	Use bind_address on the local machine as the source address of the connection. Only useful on systems with more than one address.

Flag

- C

-c cipher_spec

-D [bind address:]port

-E log_file

-e escape_char

Description

Compresses all data (including stdin, stdout, stderr, and data for forwarded X11 and TCP connections) for a faster transfer of data.

Selects the cipher specification for encrypting the session.

Dynamic application-level port forwarding. This allocates a socket to listen to port on the local side. When a connection is made to this port, the connection is forwarded over the secure channel, and the application protocol is then used to determine where to connect to from the remote machine.

Append debug logs instead of standard error.

Sets the escape character for sessions with a pty (default: '~'). The escape character is only recognized at the beginning of a line. The escape character followed by a dot ('.') closes the connection; followed by control-Z suspends the connection; and followed by itself sends the escape character once. Setting the character to "none" disables any escapes and makes the session fully transparent.

Flag	Description
-F configfile	Specifies a per-user configuration file. The default for the per-user configuration file is ~/.ssh/config.
-f	Requests ssh to go to background just before command execution.
-G	Causes ssh to print its configuration after evaluating Host and Match blocks and exit.
- g	Allows remote hosts to connect to local forwarded ports.
-I pkcs11	Specify the PKCS#11 shared library ssh should use to communicate with a PKCS#11 token providing keys.
-i identity_file	A file from which the identity key (private key) for public key authentication is read.
-J [user@]host[:port]	Connect to the target host by first making a ssh connection to the pjump host[(/iam/jump-host) and then establishing a TCP forwarding to the ultimate destination from there.
-K	Enables GSSAPI-based authentication and forwarding (delegation) of GSSAPI credentials to the server.
-k	Disables forwarding (delegation) of GSSAPI credentials to the server.

Flag Description Specifies that connections to the given TCP port or Unix socket on the local (client) host are to be forwarded to the given host and port, or Unix socket, on the remote side. This works by allocating a socket to listen to either a -L TCP port on the local side, [bind address:]port:host:hostport, optionally bound to the [bind address:]port:remote socket, specified bind address, or to -L local socket:host:hostport, -L a Unix socket. Whenever a local_socket:remote_socket connection is made to the local port or socket, the connection is forwarded over the secure channel, and a connection is made to either host port hostport, or the Unix socket remote socket, from the remote machine. Specifies the user to log in as -l login name on the remote machine. Places the ssh client into "master" mode for connection sharing. Multiple -M options places ssh into "master" mode but with - M confirmation required using ssh-askpass before each operation that changes the multiplexing state (e.g. opening a new session). A comma-separated list of MAC (message authentication code) -m mac_spec algorithms, specified in order

of preference.

Port to connect to on the

remote host.

Flag	Description
-N	Do not execute a remote command. This is useful for just forwarding ports.
-n	Prevents reading from stdin.
-O ctl_cmd	Control an active connection multiplexing master process. When the -O option is specified, the ctl_cmd argument is interpreted and passed to the master process. Valid commands are: "check" (check that the master process is running), "forward" (request forwardings without command execution), "cancel" (cancel forwardings), "exit" (request the master to exit), and "stop" (request the master to stop accepting further multiplexing requests).
-0	Can be used to give options in the format used in the configuration file. This is useful for specifying options for which there is no separate command-line flag.

-p, --port PORT

Flag

-Q query_option

- q

```
-R
[bind address:]port:host:hostport,
[bind address:]port:local socket,
-R remote socket:host:hostport, -R (server) host are to be
remote socket:local socket, -R
[bind address:]port
```

Description

Oueries ssh for the algorithms supported for the specified version 2. The available features are: cipher (supported symmetric ciphers), cipher-auth (supported symmetric ciphers that support authenticated encryption), help (supported query terms for use with the -Q flag), mac (supported message integrity codes), kex (key exchange algorithms), kex-gss (GSSAPI key exchange algorithms), key (keytypes), key-cert (certificate key types), keyplain (non-certificate key types), key-sig (all keytypes and signature algorithms), protocol-version (supported SSH protocol versions), and sig (supported signature algorithms). Alternatively, any keyword from ssh config(5) or sshd config(5) thattakes an algorithm list may be used as an alias for the corresponding query option. Oiet mode. Causes most warning and diagnostic messages to be suppressed.

Specifies that connections to the given TCP port or Unix socket on the remote forwarded to the local side.

Flag	Description
-S ctl_path	Specifies the location of a control socket for connection sharing, or the string "none" to disable connection sharing.
- S	May be used to request invocation of a subsystem on the remote system. Subsystems facilitate the use of SSH as a secure transport for other applications (e.g. sftp(1)). The subsystem is specified as the remote command.
-T	Disable pseudo-terminal allocation.
-t	Force pseudo-terminal allocation. This can be used to execute arbitrary screen-based programs on a remote machine, which can be very useful, e.g. when implementing menu services. Multiple -t options force tty allocation, even if ssh has no local tty.
-V	Display the version number.
- V	Verbose mode. It echoes everything it is doing while establishing a connection. It is very useful in the debugging of connection failures.

Flag Description Requests that standard input and output on the client be forwarded to host on port over the secure channel. Implies -N, -T, -W host:port ExitOnForwardFailure and ClearAllForwardings, though these can be overridden in the configuration file or using -o command line options. Requests tunnel device forwarding with the specified tun devices between the client (local tun) and the server (remote tun). The devices may be specified by numerical ID or the keyword "any", which uses the next available tunnel device. If -w local tun[remote tun] remote tun is not specified, it defaults to "any". If the Tunnel directive is unset, it will be set to the default tunnel mode, which is "pointto-point". If a different Tunnel forwarding mode it desired, then it should be specified before -w. Enables X11 forwarding (GUI - X Forwarding). Disables X11 forwarding (GUI - X Forwarding). Enables trusted X11 - Y Forwarding. Send log information using the syslog system module. **-** y By default this information is sent to stderr.

The awk command

Awk is a general-purpose scripting language designed for advanced text processing. It is mostly used as a reporting and analysis tool.

WHAT CAN WE DO WITH AWK?

- 1. AWK Operations: (a) Scans a file line by line (b) Splits each input line into fields (c) Compares input line/fields to pattern (d)

 Performs action(s) on matched lines
- 2. Useful For: (a) Transform data files (b) Produce formatted reports
- 3. Programming Constructs: (a) Format output lines (b) Arithmetic and string operations (c) Conditionals and loops

Syntax

```
awk options 'selection _criteria {action }' input-file >
output-file
```

Example

Consider the following text file as the input file for below example:

```
$cat > employee.txt

ajay manager account 45000
sunil clerk account 25000
varun manager sales 50000
amit manager account 47000
tarun peon sales 15000
```

1. Default behavior of Awk: By default Awk prints every line of data from the specified file.

```
$ awk '{print}' employee.txt
```

ajay manager account 45000 sunil clerk account 25000 varun manager sales 50000 amit manager account 47000 tarun peon sales 15000

In the above example, no pattern is given. So the actions are applicable to all the lines. Action print without any argument prints the whole line by default, so it prints all the lines of the file without failure.

2. Print the lines which match the given pattern.

```
awk '/manager/ {print}' employee.txt
```

```
ajay manager account 45000
varun manager sales 50000
amit manager account 47000
```

In the above example, the awk command prints all the line which matches with the 'manager'.

3. Splitting a Line Into Fields: For each record i.e line, the awk command splits the record delimited by whitespace character by default and stores it in the \$n variables. If the line has 4 words, it will be stored in \$1, \$2, \$3 and \$4 respectively. Also, \$0 represents the whole line.

```
$ awk '{print $1,$4}' employee.txt

ajay 45000
sunil 25000
varun 50000
amit 47000
tarun 15000
```

Built-In Variables In Awk

Awk's built-in variables include the field variables—\$1, \$2, \$3, and so on (\$0 is the entire line) — that break a line of text into individual words or pieces called fields.

NR: NR command keeps a current count of the number of input records. Remember that records are usually lines. Awk command performs the pattern/action statements once for each record in a file. NF: NF command keeps a count of the number of fields within the current input record. FS: FS command contains the field separator character which is used to divide fields on the input line. The default is "white space",

meaning space and tab characters. FS can be reassigned to another character (typically in BEGIN) to change the field separator. RS: RS command stores the current record separator character. Since, by default, an input line is the input record, the default record separator character is a newline. OFS: OFS command stores the output field separator, which separates the fields when Awk prints them. The default is a blank space. Whenever print has several parameters separated with commas, it will print the value of OFS in between each parameter. ORS: ORS command stores the output record separator, which separates the output lines when Awk prints them. The default is a newline character. print automatically outputs the contents of ORS at the end of whatever it is given to print.

The crontab command

crontab is used to maintain crontab files for individual users (Vixie
Cron)

crontab is the program used to install, uninstall or list the tables used to drive the cron(8) daemon in Vixie Cron. Each user can have their own crontab, and though these are files in /var/spool/cron/crontabs, they are not intended to be edited directly.

Syntax:

```
crontab [ -u user ] file
crontab [ -u user ] [ -i ] { -e | -l | -r }
```

Examples:

1. The -l option causes the current crontab to be displayed on standard output.

```
crontab -l
```

2. The -r option causes the current crontab to be removed.

```
crontab -r
```

3. The -e option is used to edit the current crontab using the editor

specified by the VISUAL or EDITOR environment variables. After you exit from the editor, the modified crontab will be installed automatically. If neither of the environment variables is defined, then the default editor /usr/bin/editor is used.

crontab -e

4. You can specify the user you want to edit the crontab for. Every user has its own crontab. Assume you have a www-data user, which is in fact the user Apache is default running as. If you want to edit the crontab for this user you can run the following command

crontab -u www-data -e

Help Command

Run below command to view the complete guide to crontab command.

man crontab

The xargs command

xargs is used to build and execute command lines from standard input

Some commands like grep can accept input as parameters, but some commands accepts arguments, this is place where xargs came into picture.

Syntax:

```
xargs [options] [command [initial-arguments]]
```

Options:

```
-0, --null
```

Input items are terminated by a null character instead of by whitespace, and the quotes and backslash are not special (every character is taken literal-ly). Disables the end of file string, which is treated like any other argument. Useful when input items might contain white space, quote marks, or back-slashes.

```
-a file, --arg-file=file
```

Read items from file instead of standard input. If you use this option, stdin remains unchanged when commands are run. Otherwise, stdin is

redirected from /dev/null.

```
-o, --open-tty
```

Reopen stdin as /dev/tty in the child process before executing the command. This is useful if you want xargs to run an interactive application.

```
--delimiter=delim, -d delim
```

Input items are terminated by the specified character. The specified delimiter may be a single character, a C-style character escape such as \n, or an octal or hexadecimal escape code. Octal and hexadecimal escape codes are understood as for the printf command. Multibyte characters are not supported. When processing the input, quotes and backslash are not special; every character in the input is taken literally. The -d option disables any end-of-file string, which is treated like any other argument. You can use this option when the input consists of simply newline-separated items, although it is al- most always better to design your program to use --null where this is possible.

```
-p, --interactive
```

Prompt the user about whether to run each command line and read a line from the terminal. Only run the command line if the response starts with y' or Y'. Implies -t.

Examples:

```
find /tmp -name core -type f -print | xargs /bin/rm -f
```

Find files named core in or below the directory /tmp and delete them. Note that this will work incorrectly if there are any filenames containing newlines or spaces.

```
find /tmp -name core -type f -print0 | xargs -0 /bin/rm -f
```

Find files named core in or below the directory /tmp and delete them, processing filenames in such a way that file or directory names containing spaces or new-lines are correctly handled.

```
find /tmp -depth -name core -type f -delete
```

Find files named core in or below the directory /tmp and delete them, but more efficiently than in the previous example (because we avoid the need to use fork(2) and exec(2) to launch rm and we don't need the extra xargs process).

```
cut -d: -f1 < /etc/passwd | sort | xargs echo</pre>
```

Generates a compact listing of all the users on the system.

Help Command

Run below command to view the complete guide to xargs command.

```
man xargs
```

The nohup command

When a shell exits (maybe while logging out of an SSH session), the HUP ('hang up') signal is send to all of its child processes, causing them to terminate. If you require a long-running process to continue after exiting shell, you'll need the nohup command. Prefixing any command with nohup causes the command to become *immune* to HUP signals. Additionally, STDIN is being ignored and all output gets redirected to local file ./nohup.out.

Examples:

1. Applying nohup to a long-running debian upgrade:

```
nohup apt-<mark>get</mark> -y upgrade
```

Syntax:

```
nohup COMMAND [ARG]... nohup OPTION
```

The pstree command

The pstree command is similar to ps, but instead of listing the running processes, it shows them as a tree. The tree-like format is sometimes more suitable way to display the processes hierarchy which is a much simpler way to visualize running processes. The root of the tree is either init or the process with the given pid.

Examples

1. To display a hierarchical tree structure of all running processes:

```
pstree
```

2. To display a tree with the given process as the root of the tree:

```
pstree [pid]
```

3. To show only those processes that have been started by a user:

```
pstree [USER]
```

4. To show the parent processes of the given process:

```
pstree -s [PID]
```

5. To view the output one page at a time, pipe it to the less command:

```
pstree | less
```

Syntax

```
ps [OPTIONS] [USER or PID]
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- a	arguments	Show command line arguments
- A	ascii	use ASCII line drawing characters
- C	compact	Don't compact identical subtrees
-h	highlight-all	Highlight current process and its ancestors
-H PID	highlight-pid=PID	highlight this process and its ancestors
- g	show-pgids	show process group ids; implies -c
- G	vt100	use VT100 line drawing characters
-l	long	Don't truncate long lines
- n	numeric-sort	Sort output by PID
-N type	ns-sort=type	Sort by namespace type (cgroup, ipc, mnt, net, pid, user, uts)
- p	show-pids	show PIDs; implies -c
- S	show-parents	Show parents of the selected process
-S	ns-changes	show namespace transitions
-t	thread-names	Show full thread names
-T	hide-threads	Hide threads, show only processes
- u	uid-changes	Show uid transitions

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
-U	unicode	Use UTF-8 (Unicode) line drawing characters
- V	version	Display version information
- Z	security-context	Show SELinux security contexts

The tree command

The tree command in Linux recursively lists directories as tree structures. Each listing is indented according to its depth relative to root of the tree.

Examples:

1. Show a tree representation of the current directory.

tree

2. -L NUMBER limits the depth of recursion to avoid display very deep trees.

tree -L 2 /

Syntax:

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Flag	Description
- a	Print all files, including hidden ones.
- d	Only list directories.
-1	Follow symbolic links into directories.
-f	Print the full path to each listing, not just its basename.
- X	Do not move across file-systems.
-L #	Limit recursion depth to #.
-P REGEX	Recurse, but only list files that match the REGEX.
-I REGEX	Recurse, but do not list files that match the REGEX.
ignore-case	Ignore case while pattern-matching.
prune	Prune empty directories from output.
filelimit #	Omit directories that contain more than # files.
-o FILE	Redirect STDOUT output to FILE.
-i	Do not output indentation.

The whereis command

The whereis command is used to find the location of source/binary file of a command and manuals sections for a specified file in Linux system. If we compare whereis command with find command they will appear similar to each other as both can be used for the same purposes but whereis command produces the result more accurately by consuming less time comparatively.

Points to be kept on mind while using the whereis command:

Since the whereis command uses chdir(change directory 2V) to give you the result in the fastest possible way, the pathnames given with the -M, -S, or -B must be full and well-defined i.e. they must begin with a / and should be a valid path that exist in the system's directories, else it exits without any valid result. whereis command has a hard-coded(code which is not dynamic and changes with specification) path, so you may not always find what you're looking for.

Syntax

whereis [options] [filename]

Options

-b : This option is used when we only want to search for binaries. -m : This option is used when we only want to search for manual sections. -s : This option is used when we only want to search for source files. -u: This option search for unusual entries. A source file or a binary file is said to be unusual if it does not have any existence in system as per [-bmsu] described along with "-u". Thus `whereis -m -u *' asks for those files in the current directory which have unsual entries.

- -B : This option is used to change or otherwise limit the places where whereis searches for binaries. -M : This option is used to change or otherwise limit the places where whereis searches for manual sections. -S : This option is used to change or otherwise limit the places where whereis searches for source files.
- -f: This option simply terminate the last directory list and signals the start of file names. This must be used when any of the -B, -M, or -S options are used. -V: Displays version information and exit. -h: Displays the help and exit.

The printf command

This command lets you print the value of a variable by formatting it using rules. It is pretty similar to the printf in C language.

Syntax:

\$printf [-v variable_name] format [arguments]

Options:

OPTION	Description		
FORMAT	FORMAT controls the output, and defines the way that the ARGUMENTs will be expressed in the output		
ARGUMENT	An ARGUMENT will be inserted into the formatted output according to the definition of FORMAT		
help	Display help and exit		
version	Output version information adn exit		

Formats:

The anatomy of the FORMAT string can be extracted into three different parts,

- ordinary characters, which are copied exactly the same characters as were used originally to the output.
- interpreted character sequences, which are escaped with a backslash ("\").

• conversion specifications, this one will define the way the ARGUMENTs will be expressed as part of the output.

You can see those parts in this example,

```
printf " %s is where over %d million developers shape \"the
future of sofware.\" " Github 65
```

The output:

Github is where over 65 million developers shape "the future of sofware."

There are two conversion specifications %s and %d, and there are two escaped characters which are the opening and closing double-quotes wrapping the words of *the future of software*. Other than that are the ordinary characters.

Conversion Specifications:

Each conversion specification begins with a % and ends with a conversion character. Between the % and the conversion character there may be, in order:

- A minus sign. This tells printf to left-adjust the conversion of the argument
- An integer that specifies field width; printf prints a conversion of ARGUMENT in a field at least number characters wide. If necessary it will be padded on the left (or right, if left-adjustment is called for) to make up the field width
- . A period, which separates the field width from the precision

An integer, the precision, which specifies the maximum number of characters to be printed from a string, or the number of digits after the decimal point of a floating-point value, or the minimum number of digits for an integer

These differentiate between a short and a long integer, respectively, and are generally only needed for computer programming

The conversion characters tell printf what kind of argument to print out, are as follows:

Conversion char	Argument type	
S	A string	
С	An integer, expressed as a character corresponds ASCII code	
d, i	An integer as a decimal number	
0	An integer as an unsigned octal number	
x, X	An integer as an unsigned hexadecimal number	
u	An integer as an unsigned decimal number	
f	A floating-point number with a default precision of 6	
e, E	A floating-point number in scientific notation	
p	A memory address pointer	
%	No conversion	

Here is the list of some examples of the printf output the ARGUMENT. we can put any word but in this one we put a 'linuxcommand` word and enclosed it with quotes so we can see easier the position related to the whitespaces.

FORMAT string ARGUMENT string Output string

"%S"	"linuxcommand"	"linuxcommand"
"%5s"	"linuxcommand"	"linuxcommand"
"%.5s"	"linuxcommand"	"linux"
"%-8s"	"linuxcommand"	"linuxcommand"

FORMAT string ARGUMENT string Output string

```
"%-15s" "linuxcommand" "linuxcommand"

"%12.5s" "linuxcommand" "linux"

"%-12.5" "linuxcommand" "linux "

"%-12.4" "linuxcommand" "linu"
```

Notes:

- printf requires the number of conversion strings to match the number of ARGUMENTs
- printf maps the conversion strings one-to-one, and expects to find exactly one ARGUMENT for each conversion string
- Conversion strings are always interpreted from left to right.

Here's the example:

The input

```
printf "We know %f is %s %d" 12.07 "larger than" 12
```

The output:

```
We know 12.070000 is larger than 12
```

The example above shows 3 arguments, 12.07, larger than, and 12. Each of them interpreted from left to right one-to-one with the given 3 conversion strings (%f, %d, %s).

Character sequences which are interpreted as special characters by printf:

Escaped char	Description
\a	issues an alert (plays a bell). Usually ASCII BEL characters
\ b	prints a backspace
\c	instructs printf to produce no further output
\e	prints an escape character (ASCII code 27)
\f	prints a form feed
\n	prints a newline
\r	prints a carriage return
\t	prints a horizontal tab
\v	prints a vertical tab
\"	prints a double-quote (")
\\	prints a backslash ()
\NNN	prints a byte with octal value NNN (1 to 3 digits)
\xHH	prints a byte with hexadecimal value HH (1 to 2 digits)
\uHHHH	prints the unicode character with hexadecimal value HHHH (4 digits)
\UННННННН	prints the unicode character with hexadecimal value HHHHHHHH (8 digits)
%b	prints ARGUMENT as a string with "\" escapes interpreted as listed above, with the exception that octal escapes take the form \0 or \0NN

Examples:

• %s

The format specifiers usually used with printf are stated in the examples below:

```
$printf "%s\n" "Printf command documentation!"
```

This will print Printf command documentation! in the shell.

Other important attributes of printf command:

- %b Prints arguments by expanding backslash escape sequences.
- %q Prints arguments in a shell-quoted format which is reusable as input.
- %d , %i Prints arguments in the format of signed decimal integers.
- %u Prints arguments in the format of unsigned decimal integers.
- %o Prints arguments in the format of unsigned octal(base 8) integers.
- %x, %X Prints arguments in the format of unsigned hexadecimal(base 16) integers. %x prints lower-case letters and %X prints upper-case letters.
- %e, %E Prints arguments in the format of floating-point numbers in exponential notation. %e prints lower-case letters and %E prints upper-case.
- %a, %A Prints arguments in the format of floating-point numbers in hexadecimal(base 16) fractional notation. %a prints lower-case letters and %A prints upper-case.
- %g, %G Prints arguments in the format of floating-point numbers in normal or exponential notation, whichever is more appropriate for the given value and precision. %g prints lower-case letters and %G prints upper-case.
- %c Prints arguments as single characters.
- %f Prints arguments as floating-point numbers.
- %s Prints arguments as strings.
- %% Prints a "%" symbol.

More Examples:

The input:

```
printf 'Hello\nyoung\nman!'
```

The output:

```
hello
young
man!
```

The two \n break the sentence into 3 parts of words.

The input:

```
printf "%f\n" 2.5 5.75
```

The output

```
2.500000
5.750000
```

The %f specifier combined with the \n interpreted the two arguments in the form of floating point in the seperated new lines.

The cut command

The cut command lets you remove sections from each line of files. Print selected parts of lines from each FILE to standard output. With no FILE, or when FILE is -, read standard input.

Usage and Examples:

1. Selecting specific fields in a file

```
cut -d "delimiter" -f (field number) file.txt
```

2. Selecting specific characters:

```
cut -c [(k)-(n)/(k),(n)/(n)] filename
```

Here, \mathbf{k} denotes the starting position of the character and \mathbf{n} denotes the ending position of the character in each line, if k and n are separated by "-" otherwise they are only the position of character in each line from the file taken as an input.

3. Selecting specific bytes:

Tabs and backspaces are treated like as a character of 1 byte.

Syntax:

```
cut OPTION... [FILE]...
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- b	bytes=LIST	select only these bytes
- C	characters=LIST	select only these characters
- d	delimiter=DELIM	use DELIM instead of TAB for field delimiter
- f	fields	select only these fields; also print any line that contains no delimiter character, unless the -s option is specified
- S	only-delimited	do not print lines not containing delimiters
- Z	zero-terminated	line delimiter is NUL, not newline

The sed command

sed command stands for stream editor. A stream editor is used to perform basic text transformations on an input stream (a file or input from a pipeline). For instance, it can perform lot's of functions on files like searching, find and replace, insertion or deletion. While in some ways it is similar to an editor which permits scripted edits (such as ed), sed works by making only one pass over the input(s), and is consequently more efficient. But it is sed's ability to filter text in a pipeline that particularly distinguishes it from other types of editors.

The most common use of sed command is for a substitution or for find and replace. By using sed you can edit files even without opening it, which is a much quicker way to find and replace something in the file. It supports basic and extended regular expressions that allow you to match complex patterns. Most Linux distributions come with GNU and sed is pre-installed by default.

Examples:

1. To Find and Replace String with sed

```
sed -i 's/{search_regex}/{replace_value}/g' input-file
```

2. For Recursive Find and Replace (along with find)

Sometimes you may want to recursively search directories for files containing a string and replace the string in all files. This can be done using commands such as find to recursively find files in the directory and piping the file names to sed. The following command will recursively search for files in the current working directory and pass the file names to sed. It will recursively search for files in the current working directory and pass the file names to sed.

```
find . -type f -exec sed -i
's/{search_regex}/{replace_value}/g' {} +
```

Syntax:

```
sed [OPTION]... {script-only-if-no-other-script} [INPUT-
FILE]...
```

- OPTION sed options in-place, silent, follow-symlinks, line-length, null-data ...etc.
- {script-only-if-no-other-script} Add the script to command if available.
- INPUT-FILE Input Stream, A file or input from a pipeline.

If no option is given, then the first non-option argument is taken as the sed script to interpret. All remaining arguments are names of input files; if no input files are specified, then the standard input is read.

GNU sed home page: http://www.gnu.org/software/sed/

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
-i[SUFFIX]	in-place[=SUFFIX]	Edit files in place (makes backup if SUFFIX supplied).

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- n	quiet,silent	Suppress automatic printing of pattern space.
-e script	expression=script	Add the script to the commands to be executed.
-f script- file	file=script-file	Add the contents of script-file to the commands to be executed.
-l N	line-length=N	Specify the desired line-wrap length for the l command.
-r	regexp-extended	Use extended regular expressions in the script.
- S	separate	Consider files as separate rather than as a single continuous long stream.
- u	unbuffered	Load minimal amounts of data from the input files and flush the output buffers more often.
- Z	null-data	Separate lines by NULL characters.

Before you begin

It may seem complicated and complex at first, but searching and replacing text in files with sed is very simple.

To find out more: https://www.gnu.org/software/sed/manual/sed.html

The vim command

The <u>vim</u> is a text editor for Unix that comes with Linux, BSD, and macOS. It is known to be fast and powerful, partly because it is a small program that can run in a terminal (although it has a graphical interface). Vim text editor is developed by <u>Bram Moolenaar</u>. It supports most file types and the vim editor is also known as a programmer's editor. It is mainly because it can be managed entirely without menus or a mouse with a keyboard.

Note: Do not confuse vim with vi. vi, which stands for "Visual", is a text editor that was developed by <u>Bill Joy</u> in 1976. vim stands for "Vi Improved", and is an improved clone of the vi editor.

The most searched question about vim:

How to exit vim editor?

The most searched question about vim editor looks very funny but it's true that the new user gets stuck at the very beginning when using vim editor.

The command to save the file and exit vim editor: :wq

The command to exit vim editor without saving the file: :q!

Fun reading:

Here's a <u>survey</u> for the same question, look at this and do not think to quit the vim editor.

Installation:

First check if vim is already installed or not, enter the following command:

```
vim --version
```

If it is already installed it will show its version, else we can run the below commands for the installations:

On Ubuntu/Debian:

```
sudo apt-get install vim
```

On CentOS/Fedora:

```
sudo yum install vim
```

If you want to use advanced features on CentOS/Fedora, you'll need to install enhanced vim editor, to do this run the following command:

```
sudo yum install -y vim-enhanced
```

Syntax:

```
vim [FILE_PATH/FILE_NAME]
```

Examples:

1. To open the file named "demo.txt" from your current directory:

```
vim demo.txt
```

2. To open the file in a specific directory:

```
vim {File_Path/filename}
```

3. To open the file starting on a specific line in the file:

```
vim {File_Path/filename} +LINE_NUMBER
```

Modes in vim editor:

There are some arguments as to how many modes that vim has, but the modes you're most likely to use are command mode and insert mode. These modes will allow you to do just about anything you need, including creating your document, saving your document, and doing advanced editing, including taking advantage of search and replace functions.

Workflow of vim editor:

- 1. Open a new or existing file with vim filename.
- 2. Type i to switch into insert mode so that you can start editing the file.
- 3. Enter or modify the text of your file.

- 4. When you're done, press the Esc key to exit insert mode and back to command mode.
- 5. Type :w or :wq to save the file or save and exit from the file respectively.

Interactive training

In this interactive tutorial, you will learn the different ways to use the vim command:

The Open vim Tutorial

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Flags/Options	Description
- e	Start in Ex mode (see <u>Ex-mode</u>)
-R	Start in read-only mode
-R	Start in read-only mode
- g	Start the <u>GUI</u>
-eg	Start the GUI in Ex mode
- Z	Like "vim", but in restricted mode
- d	Start in diff mode <u>diff-mode</u>
- h	Give usage (help) message and exit
+NUMBER	Open a file and place the cursor on the line number specified by NUMBER

Read more about vim:

vim can not be learned in a single day, use in day-to-day tasks to get hands-on in vim editor.

To learn more about vim follow the given article:

<u>Article By Daniel Miessler</u>

The chown command

The chown command makes it possible to change the ownership of a file or directory. Users and groups are fundamental in Linux, with chown you can change the owner of a file or directory. It's also possible to change ownership on folders recursively

Examples:

1. Change the owner of a file

```
chown user file.txt
```

2. Change the group of a file

```
chown :group file.txt
```

3. Change the user and group in one line

```
chown user:group file.txt
```

4. Change to ownership on a folder recursively

```
chown -R user:group folder
```

Syntax:

chown [-OPTION] [DIRECTORY_PATH]

The find command

The find command lets you search for files in a directory hierarchy

- Search a file with specific name.
- Search a file with pattern
- Search for empty files and directories.

Examples:

1. Search a file with specific name:

```
find ./directory1 -name sample.txt
```

2. Search a file with pattern:

```
find ./directoryl -name '*.txt'
```

3. To find all directories whose name is test in / directory.

```
find / -type d -name test
```

4. Searching empty files in current directory

```
find . -size 0k
```

Syntax:

```
find [options] [paths] [expression]
```

In Simple words

```
find [where to start searching from]
 [expression determines what to find] [-options] [what to
find]
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Commonly-used primaries include:

- name pattern tests whether the file name matches the shell-glob pattern given.
- type type tests whether the file is a given type. Unix file types accepted include:

options	Description
b	block device (buffered)
d	directory
f	regular file
ι	Symbolic link
-print	always returns true; prints the name of the current file plus a newline to the stdout.
-mtime n	find's all the files which are modified n days back.
-atime n	find's all the files which are accessed 50 days back.
-cmin n	find's all the files which are modified in the last 1 hour.
-newer file	find's file was modified more recently than file.
-size n	File uses n units of space, rounding up.

Help Command

Run below command to view the complete guide to find command or <u>click here</u>.

man find

The rmdir command

The **rmdir** command is used to remove empty directories from the filesystem in Linux. The rmdir command removes each and every directory specified in the command line only if these directories are empty.

Usage and Examples:

1. remove directory and its ancestors

```
rmdir -p a/b/c // is similar to 'rmdir a/b/c a/b a'
```

2. remove multiple directories

```
rmdir a b c // removes empty directories a,b and c
```

Syntax:

```
rmdir [OPTION]... DIRECTORY...
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

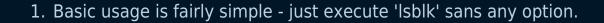
Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
	ignore-fail-on-non-empty	ignore each failure that is solely because a directory is non-empty
- p	parents	remove DIRECTORY and its ancestors
- d	delimiter=DELIM	use DELIM instead of TAB for field delimiter
- V	verbose	output a diagnostic for every directory processed

The 1sblk command

Summary

The lsblk command displays the block and loop devices on the system. It is especially useful when you want to format disks, write filesystems, check the filesystem and know the mount point of a device.

Examples



lsblk

2. Make Isblk display empty devices as well

lsblk -a

3. Make Isblk print size info in bytes

lsblk -b

4. Make Isblk print zone model for each device

lsblk -z

5. Make Isblk skip entries for slaves

lsblk -d

6. Make Isblk use ascii characters for tree formatting

lsblk -i

7. Make Isblk display info about device owner, group, and mode

lsblk -m

8. Make Isblk output select columns

lsblk -o NAME, SIZE

Syntax

```
lsblk [options] [<device> ...]
```

Reading information given by **lsblk**

On running lsblk with no flags or command-line arguments, it writes general disk information to the STDOUT. Here is a table that interpretes that information:

Column Name	Meaning	Interpretation
NAME	Name of the device.	Shows name of the device.
RM	Removable.	Shows 1 if the device is removable, 0 if not.
SIZE	Size of the device.	Shows size of the device.
RO	Read-Only.	Shows 1 if read-only, 0 if not.
TYPE	The type of block or loop device.	Shows disk for entire disk and part for partitions.
MOUNTPOINTS	Where the device is mounted.	Shows where the device is mounted. Empty if not mounted.

Reading information of a specific device

lsblk can display information of a specific device when the device's absolute path is passed to it. For example, lsblk command for displaying the information of the sda disk is:

lsblk /dev/sda

Useful flags for lsblk

Here is a table that show some of the useful flags that can be used with lsblk

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- a	all	lsblk does not list empty devices by default. This option disables this restriction.
- b	bytes	Print the SIZE column in bytes rather than in human-readable format.
- d	nodeps	Don't print device holders or slaves.
-D	discard	Print information about the discard (TRIM, UNMAP) capabilities for each device.
-Е	dedup column	Use column as a de-duplication key to de-duplicate output tree. If the key is not available for the device, or the device is a partition and parental whole-disk device provides the same key than the device is always printed.
- e	exclude list	xclude the devices specified by a comma-separated list of major device numbers. Note that RAM disks (major=1) are excluded by default. The filter is applied to the top-level devices only.
- f	fs	Displays information about filesystem.
-h	help	Print a help text and exit.
-l	include list	Displays all the information in List Format.
-J	json	Displays all the information in JSON Format.
-l	list	Displays all the information in List Format.
- m	perms	Displays info about device owner, group and mode.
- M	merge	Group parents of sub-trees to provide more readable output for RAIDs and Multi-path devices. The tree-like output is required.
-n	noheadings	Do not print a header line.
-0	output list	Specify which output columns to print. Usehelp to get a list of all supported columns.
-0	output-all	Displays all available columns.
- p	paths	Displays absolute device paths.
- P	pairs	Use key="value" output format. All potentially unsafe characters are hexescaped ($\xspace x$)
- r	raw	Use the raw output format. All potentially unsafe characters are hexescaped ($\xspace x$) in NAME, KNAME, LABEL, PARTLABEL and MOUNTPOINT columns.
-S	scsi	Output info about SCSI devices only. All partitions, slaves and holder devices are ignored.
- S	inverse	Print dependencies in inverse order.
-t	topology	Output info about block device topology. This option is equivalent to "-o NAME,ALIGNMENT,MIN-IO,OPT-IO,PHY-SEC,LOG-SEC,ROTA,SCHED,RQ-SIZE".
-T	tree[=column]	Displays all the information in Tree Format.
- V	version	Output version information and exit.

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
-W	width	pecifies output width as a number of characters. The default is the number of the terminal columns, and if not executed ona terminal, then output width is not restricted at all by default.
- X	sort [column]	Sort output lines by column. This option enableslist output format by default. It is possible to use the optiontree to force tree-like output and than the tree branches are sorted by the column.
- Z	zoned	Print the zone model for each device.
	sysroot directory	Gather data for a Linux instance other than the instance from which the Isblk command is issued. The specified directory is the system root of the Linux instance to be inspected.

Exit Codes

Like every Unix / Linux Program, lslbk returns an exit code to the environment. Here is a table of all the exit codes.

Exit Code Meaning

- 0 Exit with success.
- 1 Exit with failure.
- 32 Specified device(s) not found.
- Some of the specified devices were found while some not.

The cmatrix command

This command doesn't come by default in Linux. It has to be installed, and as seen in chapter <u>052</u> we need to run the following command:

```
sudo apt-get install cmatrix
```

And after everything is installed, you have become a 'legit hacker'. In order to use this command, just type in cmatrix and press enter:

cmatrix

And this is what you should see:

×

As you can see you have access to the matrix now. Well, not really.

What this actually is just a fun little command to goof around with. There are actually a few options you can use. For examle you can change the text colour. You can choose from green, red, blue, white, yellow, cyan, magenta and black.

cmatrix -C red

×

And the falling characters will be red. This command isn't really something that will help you with your job or anything, but it is fun to

know that you can have some fun in Linux.

The chmod command

The chmod command allows you to change the permissions on a file using either a symbolic or numeric mode or a reference file.

Examples:

1. Change the permission of a file using symbolic mode:

```
chmod u=rwx,g=rx,o=r myfile
```

The command above means:

- user can read, write, execute myfile
- group can read, execute myfile
- other can read myfile
- 2. Change the permission of a file using numeric mode

```
chmod 754 myfile user:group file.txt
```

The command above means:

- user can read, write, execute myfile
- group can read, execute myfile
- other can read myfile
- 3. Change the permission of a folder recursively

```
chmod -R 754 folder
```

Syntax:

```
chmod [OPTIONS] MODE FILE(s)
```

- [OPTIONS] : -R: recursive, mean all file inside directory
- MODE: different way to set permissions:

Symbolic mode explained

```
∘ u: user
```

• g: group

∘ o: other

∘ =: set the permission

∘ r: read

• w: write

∘ x: execute

• example u=rwx means user can read write and execute

Numeric mode explained:

The **numeric mode** is based off of a binary representation of the permissions for user, group, and others, for more information please look at this <u>explanation</u> from Digital Ocean's community section:

```
    4 stands for "read",
```

• 2 stands for "write",

- 1 stands for "execute", and
- 0 stands for "no permission."
- example 7 mean read + write + execute

The grep command

The grep filter searches a file for a particular pattern of characters, and displays all lines that contain that pattern. grep stands for globally search for regular expression and print out. The pattern that is searched in the file is referred to as the regular expression.

Examples:

1. To search the contents of the destination.txt file for a string("KeY") case insensitively.

```
grep -i "KeY" destination.txt
```

2. Displaying the count of number of matches

```
grep -c "key" destination.txt
```

3. We can search multiple files and only display the files that contains the given string/pattern.

```
grep -l "key" destination1.txt destination2.txt
destination3.xt destination4.txt
```

4. To show the line number of file with the line matched.

```
grep -n "key" destination.txt
```

5. If you want to grep the monitored log files, you can add the --line-buffered to search them in real time.

```
tail -f destination.txt | grep --line-buffered "key"
```

Syntax:

The general syntax for the grep command is as follows:

```
grep [options] pattern [files]
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- C	count	print a count of matching lines for each input file
-h	no-filename	Display the matched lines, but do not display the filenames
-i	ignore-case	Ignores, case for matching
-1	files-with-matches	Displays list of a filenames only.
-n	line-number	Display the matched lines and their line numbers.
- V	invert-match	This prints out all the lines that do not matches the pattern
-е	regexp=	Specifies expression with this option. Can use multiple times
- f	file=	Takes patterns from file, one per line.

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
-F	fixed-strings=	Interpret patterns as fixed strings, not regular expressions.
-E	extended-regexp	Treats pattern as an extended regular expression (ERE)
-W	word-regexp	Match whole word
- O	only-matching	Print only the matched parts of a matching line, with each such part on a separate output line.
	line-buffered	Force output to be line buffered.
	only-matching	Print only the matched parts of a matching line, with each such part on a separate output line.

The screen command

screen - With screen you can start a screen session and then open any number of windows (virtual terminals) inside that session. Processes running in Screen will continue to run when their window is not visible even if you get disconnected. This is very handy for running long during session such as bash scripts that run very long.

To start a screen session you type screen, this will open a new screen session with a virtual terminal open.

Below are some most common commands for managing Linux Screen Windows:

Command	Description
Ctrl+a+ c	Create a new window (with shell).
Ctrl+a+ "	List all windows.
Ctrl+a+ 0	Switch to window 0 (by number).
Ctrl+a+ A	Rename the current window.
Ctrl+a+ S	Split current region horizontally into two regions.
Ctrl+a+ '	Split current region vertically into two regions.
Ctrl+a+ tab	Switch the input focus to the next region.
Ctrl+a+ Ctrl+a	Toggle between the current and previous windows
Ctrl+a+ Q	Close all regions but the current one.
Ctrl+a+ X	Close the current region.

Restore a Linux Screen

To restore to a screen session you type screen -r, if you have more than one open screen session you have to add the session id to the command to connect to the right session.

Listing all open screen sessions

To find the session ID you can list the current running screen sessions with:

```
screen -ls
```

There are screens on:

```
18787.pts-0.your-server (Detached)
15454.pts-0.your-server (Detached)
2 Sockets in /run/screens/S-yourserver.
```

If you want to restore screen 18787.pts-0, then type the following command:

```
screen -r 18787
```

The nc command

The nc (or netcat) command is used to perform any operation involving TCP (Transmission Control Protocol, connection oriented), UDP (User Datagram Protocol, connection-less, no guarantee of data delivery) or UNIX-domain sockets. It can be thought of as swiss-army knife for communication protocol utilities.

Syntax:

```
nc [options] [ip] [port]
```

Examples:

1. Open a TCP connection to port 80 of host, using port 1337 as source port with timeout of 5s:

```
$ nc -p 1337 -w 5 host.ip 80
```

2. Open a UDP connection to port 80 on host:

```
$ nc -u host.ip 80
```

3. Create and listen on UNIX-domain stream socket:

```
$ nc -lU /var/tmp/dsocket
```

4. Create a basic server/client model:

This creates a connection, with no specific server/client sides with respect to nc, once the connection is established.

```
$ nc -l 1234 # in one console
$ nc 127.0.0.1 1234 # in another console
```

5. Build a basic data transfer model:

After the file has been transferred, sequentially, the connection closes automatically

```
$ nc -l 1234 > filename.out # to start listening in one
console and collect data

$ nc host.ip 1234 < filename.in</pre>
```

6. Talk to servers:

Basic example of retrieving the homepage of the host, along with headers.

```
\ printf "GET / HTTP/1.0\r\n\r\n" | nc host.ip 80
```

7. Port scanning:

Checking which ports are open and running services on target machines. -z flag commands to inform about those rather than initiate

a connection.

\$ nc -zv host.ip 20-2000 # range of ports to check for

Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Description
- 4	Forces nc to use IPv4 addresses
-6	Forces nc to use IPv6 addresses
- b	Allow broadcast
- D	Enable debugging on the socket
-i	Specify time interval delay between lines sent and received
-k	Stay listening for another connection after current is over
-1	Listen for incoming connection instead of initiate one to remote
-T	Specify length of TCP
- p	Specify source port to be used
- r	Specify source and/or destination ports randomly
- S	Specify IP of interface which is used to send the packets
-U	Use UNIX-domain sockets
- u	Use UDP instead of TCP as protocol
- W	Declare a timeout threshold for idle or unestablished connections
- X	Should use specified protocol when talking to proxy server
- Z	Specify to scan for listening daemons, without sending any data

The make command

The make command is used to automate the reuse of multiple commands in certain directory structure.

An example for that would be the use of terraform init, terraform plan, and terraform validate while having to change different subscriptions in Azure. This is usually done in the following steps:

```
az account set --subscription "Subscription - Name" terraform init
```

How the make command can help us is it can automate all of that in just one go: make tf-init

Syntax:

```
make [ -f makefile ] [ options ] ... [ targets ] ...
```

Example use (guide):

- 1. Create Makefile in your guide directory
- 2. Include the following in your Makefile:

```
hello-world:
    echo "Hello, World!"

hello-bobby:
    echo "Hello, Bobby!"

touch-letter:
    echo "This is a text that is being inputted into our letter!" > letter.txt

clean-letter:
    rm letter.txt
```

- 3. Execute make hello-world this echoes "Hello, World" in our terminal.
- 4. Execute make hello-bobby this echoes "Hello, Bobby!" in our terminal.
- 5. Execute make touch-letter This creates a text file named letter.txt and populates a line in it.
- 6. Execute make clean-letter

References to lenghtier and more contentful tutorials:

```
(linoxide - linux make command examples)[https://linoxide.com/linux-make-command-examples/] (makefiletutorial.com - the name itself gives it out)[https://makefiletutorial.com/]
```

The basename command

The basename is a command-line utility that strips directory from given file names. Optionally, it can also remove any trailing suffix. It is a simple command that accepts only a few options.

Examples

The most basic example is to print the file name with the leading directories removed:

basename /etc/bar/foo.txt

The output will include the file name:

foo.txt

If you run basename on a path string that points to a directory, you will get the last segment of the path. In this example, /etc/bar is a directory.

basename /etc/bar

Output

bar

The basename command removes any trailing / characters:

```
basename /etc/bar/foo.txt/
```

Output

```
foo.txt
```

Options

1. By default, each output line ends in a newline character. To end the lines with NUL, use the -z (--zero) option.

```
$ basename -z /etc/bar/foo.txt
foo.txt$
```

2. The basename command can accept multiple names as arguments. To do so, invoke the command with the -a (--multiple) option, followed by the list of files separated by space. For example, to get the file names of /etc/bar/foo.txt and /etc/spam/eggs.docx you would run:

```
basename -a /etc/bar/foo.txt /etc/spam/eggs.docx
```

```
foo.txt
eggs.docx
```

Syntax

The basename command supports two syntax formats:

```
basename NAME [SUFFIX]
basename OPTION... NAME...
```

Additional functionalities

Removing a Trailing Suffix: To remove any trailing suffix from the file name, pass the suffix as a second argument:

```
basename /etc/hostname name
host
```

Generally, this feature is used to strip file extensions

Help Command

Run the following command to view the complete guide to basename command.

man basename

The banner command

The banner command writes ASCII character Strings to standard output in large letters. Each line in the output can be up to 10 uppercase or lowercase characters in length. On output, all characters appear in uppercase, with the lowercase input characters appearing smaller than the uppercase input characters.

Note: If you will define more than one NUMBER with sleep command then this command will delay for the sum of the values.

Examples:

1. To display a banner at the workstation, enter:

```
banner LINUX!
```

2. To display more than one word on a line, enclose the text in quotation marks, as follows:

```
banner "Intro to" Linux
```

This displays Intro to on one line and Linux on the next

3. Printing "101LinuxCommands" in large letters.

banner 101LinuxCommands

It will print only 101LinuxCo as banner has a default capacity of 10

The alias command

The alias command lets you create shortcuts for commands or define your own commands.

This is mostly used to avoid typing long commands.

Examples:

1. To show the list of all defined aliases in the reusable form alias NAME=VALUE:

```
alias -p
```

2. To make ls -A shortcut:

```
alias la='ls -A'
```

Syntax:

```
alias [-p] [name[=value]]
```

Setting Persistent Options:

As with most Linux custom settings for the terminal, any alias you defined is only applied to the current opening terminal session.

For any alias to be active for all new sessions you need to add that command to your rc file to be executed in the startup of every new terminal. this file can be as follows:

• Bash: ~/.bashrc

• **ZSH**: ~/.zshrc

• Fish - ~/.config/fish/config.fish

you can open that file with your favorite editor as follows:

```
vim ~/.bashrc
```

type your commands one per line, then save the file and exit. the commands will be automatically applied in the next session.

If you want to apply it in the current session, run the following command:

```
source ~/.bashrc
```

Opposite command:

To remove predefined alias you can use unalias command as follows:

```
unalias alias_name
```

to remove all aliases

```
unalias -a
```

The which command

which command identifies the executable binary that launches when you issue a command to the shell. If you have different versions of the same program on your computer, you can use which to find out which one the shell will use.

It has 3 return status as follows:

```
0 : If all specified commands are found and executable.
```

- 1 : If one or more specified commands is nonexistent or not executable.
- 2 : If an invalid option is specified.

Examples

1. To find the full path of the ls command, type the following:

```
which ls
```

2. We can provide more than one arguments to the which command:

```
which netcat uptime ping
```

The which command searches from left to right, and if more than one matches are found in the directories listed in the PATH path variable, which will print only the first one.

3. To display all the paths for the specified command:

```
which [filename] -a
```

4. To display the path of node executable files, execute the command:

which node

5. To display the path of Java executable files, execute:

```
which java
```

Syntax

```
which [filename1] [filename2] ...
```

You can pass multiple programs and commands to which, and it will check them in order.

For example:

```
which ping cat uptime date head
```

Options

- -a: List all instances of executables found (instead of just the first one of each).
- -s : No output, just return 0 if all the executables are found, or 1 if some

were not found

The date command

The date command is used to print the system current date and time.

date command is also used to set the date and time of the system, but you need to be the super-user (root) to do it.

Examples:

1. To show the current date and time:

date

2. You can use -u option to show the date and time in UTC (Coordinated Universal Time) time zone

```
date -u
```

1. To display any given date string in formatted date:

```
date --date="2/02/2010"
date --date="2 years ago"
```

Syntax:

```
date [OPTION]... [+FORMAT]
date [-u|--utc|--universal] [MMDDhhmm[[CC]YY][.ss]]
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- d	date=STRING	convert the provided string into formatted date
- f	file=DATEFILE	likedate but for files
-I[FMT]	iso-8601[=FMT]	Display date and time in ISO 8601 format
- r	reference=FILE	Display the last modification time of FILE
- S	set=STRING	sets the time to the one described by STRING
- u	universal	show the date and time in UTC (Coordinated Universal Time) time zone
-R	rfc-email	Display date and time in ISO 8601 format Example: (Fri, 22 Oct 2021 05:18:42 +0200)
-	rfc-3339=FMT	Display date and time in RFC 3339 format
	debug	Usually used withdate to annotate the parsed date and warn about questionable usage to stderr

Control The output:

You can use Format specifiers to control the output date and time.

Examples:

Command	Output
\$ date "+%D"	10/22/21
\$ date "+%D %T"	10/22/21 05:33:51
\$ date "+%A %B %d %T %y"	Friday October 22 05:34:47 21

Syntax:

```
date "+%[format-options ...]"
```

List of Format specifiers to control the output:

Specifiers Description

%a	abbreviated weekday name (e.g., Sun)
%A	full weekday name (e.g., Sunday)
%b	abbreviated month name (e.g., Jan)
%B	full month name (e.g., January)
%C	date and time (e.g., Thu Mar 3 23:05:25 2005)
%C	century; like %Y, except omit last two digits (e.g., 20)
%d	day of month (e.g., 01)
%D	date; same as %m/%d/%y
%e	day of month, space padded; same as %_d
%F	full date; same as %Y-%m-%d
%g	last two digits of year of ISO week number (see %G)
%G	year of ISO week number (see %V); normally useful only with %V $$
%h	same as %b
%H	hour (0023)
%I	hour (0112)
%j	day of year (001366)
%k	hour, space padded (023); same as %_H

Specifiers Description

```
%[
           hour, space padded (1..12); same as % I
           month (01..12)
%m
%M
           minute (00..59)
           a newline
%n
%N
           nanoseconds (00000000..999999999)
           locale's equivalent of either AM or PM; blank if not known
%p
%P
           like %p, but lower case
           quarter of year (1..4)
%q
           locale's 12-hour clock time (e.g., 11:11:04 PM)
%r
%R
           24-hour hour and minute: same as %H:%M
           seconds since 1970-01-01 00:00:00 UTC
%5
%5
           second (00..60)
           a tab
%t
%T
           time: same as %H:%M:%S
           day of week (1..7); 1 is Monday
%u
           week number of year, with Sunday as first day of week
%U
           (00..53)
           ISO week number, with Monday as first day of week
%V
           (01..53)
           day of week (0..6); 0 is Sunday
%W
           week number of year, with Monday as first day of week
%W
           (00..53)
%X
           locale's date representation (e.g., 12/31/99)
%X
           locale's time representation (e.g., 23:13:48)
           last two digits of year (00..99)
%y
%Y
           year
           +hhmm numeric time zone (e.g., -0400)
%Z
           +hh:mm numeric time zone (e.g., -04:00)
%:Z
           +hh:mm:ss numeric time zone (e.g., -04:00:00)
%::Z
           numeric time zone with: to necessary precision (e.g., -04,
%:::Z
           +05:30)
           alphabetic time zone abbreviation (e.g., EDT)
%7
```

The mount command

The mount command is used to mount 'attach' a filesystem and make it accessible by an existing directory structure tree.

Examples:

1. Displays version information:

```
mount -V
```

2. Attaching filesystem found on device and of type type at the directory dir:

```
mount -t type device dir
```

Syntax Forms:

```
mount [-lhV]

mount -a [-fFnrsvw] [-t vfstype] [-0 optlist]

mount [-fnrsvw] [-t fstype] [-o options] device dir
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- h	help	Dispaly a help message and exists
- n	no-mtab	Mount without writing in /etc/mtab
- a	all	Mount all filesystems (of the given types) mentioned in fstab
-r	read-only	Mount the filesystem read-only
-W	rw	Mount the filesystem as read/write.
- M	move	Move a subtree to some other place.
-В	bind	Remount a subtree somewhere else (so that its contents are available in both places).

The nice/renice command

The nice/renice commands is used to modify the priority of the program to be executed. The priority range is between -20 and 19 where 19 is the lowest priority.

Examples:

1. Running cc command in the background with a lower priority than default (slower):

```
nice -n 15 cc -c *.c &
```

2. Increase the priority to all processes belonging to group "test":

```
renice --20 -g test
```

Syntax:

```
nice [ -Increment| -n Increment ] Command [ Argument ... ]
```

Flags:

Short Flag Long Description

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
-Increment	-	Increment is the value of priority you want to assign.
-n Increment	-	Same as -Increment

The wc command

the wc command stands for word count. It's used to count the number of lines, words, and bytes (characters) in a file or standard input then prints the result to the standard output.

Examples:

1. To count the number of lines, words and characters in a file in order:

```
wc file.txt
```

2. To count the number of directories in a directory:

```
ls -F | grep / | wc -l
```

Syntax:

```
wc [OPTION]... [FILE]...
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- C	bytes	print the byte counts

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- m	chars	print the character counts
-l	lines	print the newline counts
-	files0-from=F	read input from the files specified by NUL-terminated names in file F. If F is - then read names from standard input
-L	max-line-length	print the maximum display width
-W	words	print the word counts

Additional Notes:

- Passing more than one file to wc command prints the counts for each file and the total conuts of them.
- you can combine more whan one flag to print the result as you want.

The tr command

The tr command in UNIX is a command line utility for translating or deleting characters. It supports a range of transformations including uppercase to lowercase, squeezing repeating characters, deleting specific characters and basic find and replace. It can be used with UNIX pipes to support more complex translation. tr stands for translate.

Examples:

1. Convert all lowercase letters in file1 to uppercase.

```
$ cat file1
foo
bar
baz
tr a-z A-Z < file1
F00
BAR
BAZ</pre>
```

2. Make consecutive line breaks into one.

```
$ cat file1
foo

bar

baz
$ tr -s "\n" < file1
foo
bar
baz</pre>
```

3. Remove the newline code.

```
$ cat file1
foo
bar
baz
$ tr -d "\n" < file1
foobarbaz%</pre>
```

Syntax:

The general syntax for the tr command is as follows:

```
tr [options] string1 [string2]
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities:

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- C		Complement the set of characters in string1, that is -C ab includes every character except for a and b.

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- C		Same as -C.
- d		Delete characters in string1 from the input.
- S		If there is a sequence of characters in string1, combine them into one.

The fdisk command

The fdisk command is used for controlling the disk partition table and making changes to it and this is a list of some of options provided by it :

- Organize space for new drives.
- Modify old drives.
- Create space for new partitions.
- Move data to new partitions.

Examples:

1. To view basic details about all available partitions on the system:

```
fdisk -l
```

2. To show the size of the partition:

```
fdisk -s /dev/sda
```

3. To view the help message and all options of the command:

```
fdisk -h
```

Syntax:

fdisk [options] device

Some of the command options:

On writing the following command

fdisk /dev/sdb

the following window appears:

```
linux@ubuntu:~$ sudo fdisk /dev/sda

Welcome to fdisk (util-linux 2.31.1).
Changes will remain in memory only, until you decide to write them.
Be careful before using the write command.

Command (m for help):
```

and then you type m which will show you all options you need such as creating new partition and deleting a partition as in the following picture:

```
Command (n for help): n

Help:

DOS (MBR)
a toggle a bootable flag
b edit nested BSD disklabel
c toggle the dos compatibility flag

Generic
d delete a partition
f list free unpartition types
n add a new partition types
n add a new partition type
v verify the partition table
t change partition about a partition
print information about a partition

Misc
n print this menu
u change display/entry units
x extra functionality (experts only)

Script
I load disk layout from sfdisk script file
d dump disk layout from sfdisk script file
d dump disk layout to sfdisk script file
Save & Exit
w write table to disk and exit
q quit without saving changes

Create a new enpty GPT partition table
c create a new enpty GPT partition table
c create a new enpty GPT partition table
c create a new enpty GDT partition table
c create a new enpty GDT partition table
c create a new enpty GDT partition table
c create a new enpty GDD partition table
c create a new enpty GDD partition table
c create a new enpty DDS partition table
c create a new enpty DDS partition table
c create a new enpty SDD partition table
```

The wait commands

It is a command that waits for completing any running process of given id. if the process id is not given then it waits for all current child processes to complete.

Example

This example shows how the wait command works:

Step-1:

Create a file named "wait_example.sh" and add the following script to it.

```
#!/bin/bash
echo "Wait command" &
process_id=$!
wait $process_id
echo "Exited with status $?"
```

Step-2:

Run the file with bash command.

```
$ bash wait_example.sh
```

The zcat command

The zcat allows you to look at a compressed file.

Examples:

1. To view the content of a compressed file:

```
~$ zcat test.txt.gz
Hello World
```

2. It can also Works with multiple files:

```
~$ zcat test2.txt.gz test.txt.gz
hello
Hello world
```

Syntax:

The general syntax for the zcat command is as follows:

```
zcat [ -n ] [ -V ] [ File ... ]
```

The fold command

The **fold** command in Linux wraps each line in an input file to fit a specified width and prints it to the standard output.

By default, it wraps lines at a maximum width of 80 columns but this is configurable.

To fold input using the fold command pass a file or standard input to the command.

Syntax:

```
fold [OPTION]... [FILE]...
```

Options

-w: By using this option in fold command, we can limit the width by number of columns.

By using this command we change the column width from default width of 80. Syntax:

```
fold -w[n] [FILE]
```

Example: wrap the lines of file1.txt to a width of 60 columns

```
fold -w60 file1.txt
```

-b: This option of fold command is used to limit the width of the output by the number of bytes rather than the number of columns.

By using this we can enforce the width of the output to the number of bytes.

```
fold -b[n] [FILE]
```

Example: limit the output width of the file to 40 bytes and the command breaks the output at 40 bytes.

```
fold -b40 file1.txt
```

-s: This option is used to break the lines on spaces so that words are not broken.

If a segment of the line contains a blank character within the first width column positions, break the line after the last such blank character meeting the width constraints.

```
fold -w[n] -s [FILE]
```

The quota command

The quota display disk usage and limits.

Installation:

You can simply go ahead and install quota on ubuntu systems by running:

```
sudo apt-get install quota
```

for Debian use the install command without sudo:

```
apt-get install quota
```

Syntax:

The general syntax for the quota command is as follows:

```
quota [ -u [ User ] ] [ -g [ Group ] ] [ -v | -q ]
```

The aplay command

aplay is a command-line audio player for ALSA(Advanced Linux Sound Architecture) sound card drivers. It supports several file formats and multiple soundcards with multiple devices. It is basically used to play audio on command-line interface. aplay is much the same as arecord only it plays instead of recording. For supported soundfile formats, the sampling rate, bit depth, and so forth can be automatically determined from the soundfile header.

Syntax:

```
$ aplay [flags] [filename [filename]] ...
```

Options:

```
-h, -help : Show the help information.
-d, -duration=# : Interrupt after # seconds.
-r, -rate=# : Sampling rate in Hertz. The default rate is 8000
Hertz.
-version : Print current version.
-l, -list-devices : List all soundcards and digital audio devices.
-L, -list-pcms : List all PCMs(Pulse Code Modulation) defined.
-D, -device=NAME : Select PCM by name.
```

Note: This command contain various other options that we normally don't need. If you want to know more about you can simply run following command on your terminal.

```
aplay --help
```

Examples:

1. To play audio for only 10 secs at 2500hz frequency.

```
$ aplay -d 10 -r 2500hz sample.mp3
```

Plays sample.mp3 file for only 10 secs at 2500hz frequency.

2. To play full audio clip at 2500hz frezuency.

```
$ aplay -r 2500hz sample.mp3
```

Plays sample.mp3 file at 2500hz frezuency.

3. To Display version information.

```
$ aplay --version
```

Displays version information. For me it shows aplay: vesrion 1.1.0

The spd-say command

spd-say sends text-to-speech output request to speech-dispatcher process which handles it and ideally outputs the result to the audio system.

Syntax:

```
$ spd-say [options] "some text"
```

Options:

```
-r, --rate
      Set the rate of the speech (between -100 and +100,
default: 0)
-p, --pitch
       Set the pitch of the speech (between -100 and +100,
default: 0)
-i, --volume
       Set the volume (intensity) of the speech (between -100
and +100, default: 0)
-o, --output-module
      Set the output module
-l, --language
      Set the language (iso code)
-t, --voice-type
       Set the preferred voice type (male1, male2, male3,
female1, female2, female3,
      child male, child female)
-m, --punctuation-mode
      Set the punctuation mode (none, some, all)
-s, --spelling
      Spell the message
-x, --ssml
      Set SSML mode on (default: off)
-e, --pipe-mode
      Pipe from stdin to stdout plus Speech Dispatcher
-P, --priority
      Set priority of the message (important, message,
text, notification, progress;
      default: text)
```

```
-N, --application-name
      Set the application name used to establish the
connection to specified string value
       (default: spd-say)
-n, --connection-name
       Set the connection name used to establish the
connection to specified string value
       (default: main)
-w, --wait
      Wait till the message is spoken or discarded
-S, --stop
       Stop speaking the message being spoken in Speech
Dispatcher
-C, --cancel
      Cancel all messages in Speech Dispatcher
-v, --version
       Print version and copyright info
-h, --help
      Print this info
```

Examples:

1. To Play the given text as the sound.

```
$ spd-say "Hello"
```

Plays "Hello" in sound.

The xeyes command

Xeyes is a graphical user interface program that creates a set of eyes on the desktop that follow the movement of the mouse cursor. It seems much of a funny command, than of any useful use. Being funny is as much useful, is another aspect.

Syntax:

xeyes

What is the purpose of xeyes?

xeyes is not for fun, at least not only. The purpose of this program is to let you follow the mouse pointer which is sometimes hard to see. It is very useful on multi-headed computers, where monitors are separated by some distance, and if someone (say teacher at school) wants to present something on the screen, the others on their monitors can easily follow the mouse with xeyes.

The parted command

The parted command is used to manage hard disk partitions on Linux. It can be used to add, delete, shrink and extend disk partitions along with the file systems located on them. You will need root access to the system to run parted commands.

NOTE: Parted writes the changes immediately to your disk, be careful when you are modifying the disk partitions.

Examples:

1. Displays partition layout of all block devices:

```
sudo parted -l
```

2. Display partition table of a specific disk

```
sudo parted disk print
```

Examples of disk are /dev/sda, /dev/sdb

3. Create a new disk label of label-type for a specific disk

```
sudo parted mklabel disk label-type
```

label-type can take values "aix", "amiga", "bsd", "dvh", "gpt", "loop",

```
"mac", "msdos", "pc98", or "sun"
```

4. Create a new partition in a specific disk of type part-time, file system is fs-type and of size size Mb.

```
sudo parted disk mkpart part-time fs-type 1 size
```

part-time can take values "primary", "logical", "extended".
fs-type is optional. It can take values "btrfs", "ext2", "ext3", "ext4",
"fat16", "fat32", "hfs", "hfs+", "linux-swap", "ntfs", "reiserfs", "udf", or
"xfs"

size has to less than the total size of the specified disk. To create a partition of size 50Mb, will take the value of 50

5. parted can also be run in an interactive format. Operations to manage the disk partitions can be performed by entering appropriate commands in the interactive session. help command in the interactive session shows a list of all possible disk management operations which can be performed.

```
$ sudo parted
 GNU Parted 3.3
 Using /dev/sda
 Welcome to GNU Parted! Type 'help' to view a list of
commands.
  (parted) print # prints the partition table of the default
selected disk - /dev/sda
 Model: ATA VBOX HARDDISK (scsi)
 Disk /dev/sda: 53.7GB
 Sector size (logical/physical): 512B/512B
 Partition Table: msdos
 Disk Flags:
 Number Start
                 End
                         Size
                                 Type
                                         File system
                                                       Flags
         1049kB 53.7GB 53.7GB primary ext4
                                                       boot
  (parted) select /dev/sdb # change the current disk on which
operations have to be performed
 Using /dev/sdb
  (parted) quit # exit the interactive session
```

Syntax Forms:

```
parted [options] [device [command [options...]...]]
```

Options:

Short Flag	Long Flag Description	
-h	help	<pre>displays a help message listing all possible commands [options]</pre>
-1	list	lists partition layout on all block devices
-m	machine	displays machine parseable output
-V	version	displays the version

Short Flag	Long Flag	g Description
-a	align	set alignment type for newly created partition. It can take the following values: none: Use the minimum alignment allowed by the disk type cylinder: Align partitions to cylinders minimal: Use minimum alignment as given by the disk topology information optimal: Use optimum alignment as given by the disk topology information

The n command

The "nl" command enumerates lines in a file. A different way of viewing the contents of a file, the "nl" command can be very useful for many tasks.

Syntax

```
nl [ -b Type ] [ -f Type ] [ -h Type ] [ -l Number ] [ -d
Delimiter ] [ -i Number ] [ -n Format ] [ -v Number ] [ -w
Number ] [ -p ] [ -s Separator ] [ File ]
```

Examples:

1. To number all lines:

```
nl -ba chap1
```

2. Displays all the text lines:

```
[server@ssh ~]$ nl states
1 Alabama
2 Alaska
3 Arizona
4 Arkansas
5 California
6 Colorado
```

- 7 Connecticut.
- 8 Delaware
- 3. Specify a different line number format

```
nl -i10 -nrz -s:: -v10 -w4 chap1
```

You can name only one file on the command line. You can list the flags and the file name in any order.

The pidof command

The pidof is a command-line utility that allows you to find the process
ID of a running program.

Syntax

```
pidof [OPTIONS] PROGRAM_NAME
```

To view the help message and all options of the command:

```
[user@home ~]$ pidof -h
              Return PIDs with the same root directory
 - C
 -d <sep>
              Use the provided character as output separator
              Display this help text
 - h
 - n
              Avoid using stat system function on network
shares
 -o <pid>
              Omit results with a given PID
- q
              Quiet mode. Do not display output
              Only return one PID
              Return PIDs of shells running scripts with a
- X
matching name
              List zombie and I/O waiting processes. May cause
pidof to hang.
```

Examples:

To find the PID of the SSH server, you would run:

```
pidof sshd
```

If there are running processes with names matching sshd, their PIDs will be displayed on the screen. If no matches are found, the output will be empty.

```
# Output
4382 4368 811
```

pidof returns 0 when at least one running program matches with the requested name. Otherwise, the exit code is 1. This can be useful when writing shell scripts.

To be sure that only the PIDs of the program you are searching for are displayed, use the full pathname to the program as an argument. For example, if you have two running programs with the same name located in two different directories pidof will show PIDs of both running programs.

By default, all PIDs of the matching running programs are displayed. Use the -s option to force pidof to display only one PID:

```
pidof -s program_name
```

The -o option allows you to exclude a process with a given PID from the command output:

```
pidof -o pid program_name
```

When pidof is invoked with the -o option, you can use a special PID named %PPID that represents the calling shell or shell script.

To return only the PIDs of the processes that are running with the same root directory, use the -c option. This option works only pidof is run as root or sudo user:

pidof -c pid program_name

Conclusion

The pidof command is used to find out the PIDs of a specific running program.

pidof is a simple command that doesn't have a lot of options. Typically you will invoke pidof only with the name of the program you are searching for.

The shuf command

The shuf command in Linux writes a random permutation of the input lines to standard output. It pseudo randomizes an input in the same way as the cards are shuffled. It is a part of GNU Coreutils and is not a part of POSIX. This command reads either from a file or standard input in bash and randomizes those input lines and displays the output.

Syntax

```
# file shuf
shuf [OPTION] [FILE]

# list shuf
shuf -e [OPTION]... [ARG]

# range shuf
shuf -i LO-HI [OPTION]
```

Like other Linux commands, shuf command comes with --help option:

```
[user@home ~]$ shuf --help
Usage: shuf [OPTION]... [FILE]
       shuf -e [OPTION]... [ARG]...
  or: shuf -i LO-HI [OPTION]...
Write a random permutation of the input lines to standard
output.
With no FILE, or when FILE is -, read standard input.
Mandatory arguments to long options are mandatory for short
options too.
  -e, --echo
                            treat each ARG as an input line
  -i, --input-range=LO-HI
                           treat each number LO through HI as
an input line
  -n, --head-count=COUNT
                            output at most COUNT lines
  -o, --output=FILE
                            write result to FILE instead of
standard output
     --random-source=FILE
                            get random bytes from FILE
  -r, --repeat
                            output lines can be repeated
  -z, --zero-terminated
                            line delimiter is NUL, not newline
```

Examples:

shuf command without any option or argument.

```
shuf
```

When shuf command is used without any argument in the command line, it takes input from the user until CTRL-D is entered to terminate the set of inputs. It displays the input lines in a shuffled form. If 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are entered as input lines, then it generates 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 in random order in the output as seen in the illustration below:

```
[user@home ~]$ shuf
1
2
3
4
5
4
5
1
2
3
```

Consider an example where Input is taken from the pipe:

```
{
seq 5 | shuf
}
```

seq 5 returns the integers sequentially from 1 to 5 while the shuf

command takes it as input and shuffles the content i.e, the integers from 1 to 5. Hence, 1 to 5 is displayed as output in random order.

```
[user@home ~]$ {
> seq 5 | shuf
> }
5
4
2
3
1
```

File shuf

When shuf command is used without -e or -i option, then it operates as a file shuf i.e, it shuffles the contents of the file. The <file_name> is the last parameter of the shuf command and if it is not given, then input has to be provided from the shell or pipe.

Consider an example where input is taken from a file:

```
shuf file.txt
```

Suppose file.txt contains 6 lines, then the shuf command displays the input lines in random order as output.

```
[user@home ~]$ cat file.txt
line-1
line-2
line-3
line-4
line-5
[user@home ~]$ shuf file.txt
line-5
line-4
line-1
line-3
line-2
```

Any number of lines can be randomized by using -n option.

```
shuf -n 2 file.txt
```

This will display any two random lines from the file.

```
line-5
line-2
```

List shuf

When -e option is used with shuf command, it works as a list shuf. The arguments of the command are taken as the input line for the shuf.

Consider an example:

```
shuf -e A B C D E
```

It will take A, B, C, D, E as input lines, and will shuffle them to

display the output.

A C B D E

Any number of input lines can be displayed using the -n option along with -e option.

```
shuf -e -n 2 A B C D E
```

This will display any two of the inputs.

E A

Range shuf

When -i option is used along with shuf command, it acts as a range shuf. It requires a range of input as input where L0 is the lower bound while HI is the upper bound. It displays integers from L0-HI in shuffled form.

```
[user@home ~]$ shuf -i 1-5
4
1
3
2
5
```

Conclusion

The **shuf** command helps you randomize input lines. And there are features to limit the number of output lines, repeat lines and even generate random positive integers. Once you're done practicing whatever we've discussed here, head to the tool's <u>man page</u> to know more about it.

The less command

The less command is a Linux terminal pager which shows a file's content one screen at a time. Useful when dealing with a large text file because it doesn't load the entire file but accesses it page by page, resulting in fast loading speeds.

Syntax

less [options] file_path

Options

Some popular option flags include:

```
-E less automatically exits upon reaching the end of file.
```

- -f Forces less to open non-regular files (a directory or a device-special file).
- -F Exit less if the entire file can be displayed on the first screen.
- -g Highlights the string last found using search. By default, less highlights all strings matching the last search command.
- -G Removes all highlights from strings found using search.

For a complete list of options, refer to the less help file by running:

```
less --help
```

Few Examples:

1. Open a Text File

less /etc/updatedb.conf

2. Show Line Numbers

```
less -N /etc/init/mysql.conf
```

3. Open File with Pattern Search

```
less -pERROR /etc/init/mysql.conf
```

4. Remove Multiple Blank Lines

less welcome.txt

Here I showed you how to use the less command in Linux. Although there are other terminal pagers, such as most and more, but less could be a better choice as it is a powerful tool present in almost every system.

For more details:

https://phoenixnap.com/kb/less-command-in-linux#: \sim :text=The%20less %20command%20is%20a,resulting%20in%20fast%20loading%20speed \underline{s} .

The nslookup command

The nslookup command is a network administration command-line tool for querying the Domain Name System (DNS) to obtain domain name or IP address mapping or any other specific DNS record.

Syntax

nslookup [options] [host]

Options

Some popular option flags include:

```
-domain=[domain-name]
                         Change the default DNS name.
-debug Show debugging information.
-port=[port-number]
                       Specify the port for queries. The
default port number is 53.
-timeout=[seconds]
                        Specify the time allowed for the
server to respond.
             View information about the DNS A address records.
-type=a
            View all available records.
-type=any
-type=hinfo View hardware-related information about the host.
            View Mail Exchange server information.
-type=mx
-type=ns
            View Name Server records.
            View Pointer records. Used in reverse DNS
-type=ptr
lookups.
-type=soa
            View Start of Authority records.
```

Few Examples:

1. Query DNS Server

```
nslookup www.google.com
```

2. Specify a port to query

```
nslookup -port=53 www.google.com
```

3. Get the MX Record

```
nslookup -type=mx google.com
```

Here I showed you how to use the nslookup command in Linux. Although there are other DNS lookup tools, such as dig, nslookup could be a better choice as it is a powerful tool present in almost every system.

For more details: Nslookup on Wikipedia

The cmp command

The cmp command is used to compare the two files byte by byte.

Example:

```
cmp file1.txt file2.txt
```

Syntax:

cmp [option] File1 File2

Few Examples:

1. Comparison of two files:

Perform a simple comparison of the two files to check out if they differ from each other or not.

Example:

```
cmp File1 File2
```

2. Comparing Files after Skipping a Specified Number of Bytes:

Compare two files after skipping a certain number of bytes

Example:

```
cmp -i 2 list.txt list2.txt
```

Here "INT" represents the number of bytes to be skipped

3. Display the Differing Bytes of the Files in the Output:

Example:

```
cmp -b list.txt list1.txt
```

4. Display Byte Numbers and Differing Byte Values of the Files in the Output:

Example:

```
cmp -l list.txt list1.txt
```

5. Comparing the First "n" Number of Bytes of the Files:

Example:

```
cmp -n 10 list.txt list2.txt
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- b	print-bytes	print differing bytes
-i	ignore-initial=SKIP	skip first SKIP bytes of both inputs
-i	ignore-initial=SKIP1:SKIP2	skip first SKIP1 bytes of FILE1 and first SKIP2 bytes of FILE2
-1	verbose	output byte numbers and differing byte values

Short Flag	Long Flag	Description
- n	bytes=LIMIT	compare at most LIMIT bytes
- S	quiet,silent	suppress all normal output
V	version	output version information and exit
	help	Display this help and exit

The expr command

The expr command evaluates a given expression and displays its corresponding output. It is used for basic operations like addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and modulus on integers and Evaluating regular expressions, string operations like substring, length of strings etc.

Syntax

expr expression

Few Examples:

1. Perform basic arithmetic operations using expr command

```
expr 7 + 14 expr 7 * 8
```

2. Comparing two expressions

```
x=10
y=20
res=`expr $x = $y`
echo $res
```

3. Match the numbers of characters in two strings

```
expr alphabet : alpha
```

4. Find the modulus value

```
expr 20 % 30
```

5. Extract the substring

```
a=HelloWorld
b=`expr substr $a 6 10`
echo $b
```

Additional Flags and their Functionalities

Flag Description

--version output version information and exit

--help Display this help and exit

For more details: Expr on Wikipedia

The wall command

The wall command (short for write all) is used to send a message to all logged-in users on a Linux system. It is commonly used by system administrators to broadcast important information, such as planned maintenance or urgent announcements.

Syntax

wall [options] [message]

If no message is provided as an argument, wall will read the message from standard input (stdin).

Options

Some popular option flags include:

```
-n \, Do not display the header (username and terminal of the sender).
```

-t [seconds] Set a timeout for writing the message to each terminal.

Few Examples:

1. Broadcast a message to all users

```
wall "The system will shut down in 10 minutes. Please save
your work."
```

2. Broadcast a message from a text file

```
wall < message.txt</pre>
```

3. Send a message without showing the sender header

```
wall -n "Maintenance completed successfully."
```

Here I showed you how to use the wall command in Linux. It is a simple but effective tool for system-wide communication, especially useful when you need to notify multiple logged-in users at once.

For more details: Wall (Unix) on Wikipedia

Conclusion

Congratulations! You've reached the end of the **101 Linux Commands eBook**. Throughout this journey, you've explored over 135 essential Linux commands that form the foundation of system administration, development, and everyday Linux usage.

What You've Learned

This eBook has covered a comprehensive range of topics including:

☐ File and Directory Management

- Navigation commands (cd, ls, pwd)
- File manipulation (cp, mv, rm, mkdir)
- Content viewing (cat, head, tail, less)
- Search and find operations (find, grep, locate)

□ System Administration

- Process management (ps, kill, top, htop)
- User and group management (useradd, usermod, chmod, chown)
- System monitoring (df, du, free, vmstat)
- Service management (systemctl, service)

□ Networking and Communication

- Network configuration (ip, ifconfig, netstat)
- Remote access (ssh, scp, rsync)
- Network diagnostics (ping, dig, whois)

Package Management and Archives

- Package managers (apt, yum, rpm)
- Compression tools (tar, gzip, zip)
- Archive manipulation

© Text Processing and Automation

- Text editors (vim, nano)
- Text processing (awk, sed, cut, sort)
- Task scheduling (crontab)
- Shell scripting helpers (xargs, nohup)

Your Linux Journey Continues

Mastering these commands is just the beginning of your Linux journey. Here are some recommendations for continuing your learning:

□ Next Steps

- 1. **Practice Regularly**: The best way to master Linux commands is through consistent practice
- 2. **Explore System Administration**: Learn about server management, security, and deployment
- 3. **Dive into Scripting**: Start writing bash scripts to automate repetitive tasks
- 4. **Learn Version Control**: Master Git for code management and collaboration
- 5. **Explore Containerization**: Learn Docker and Kubernetes for modern application deployment

☐ Advanced Topics to Explore

- Shell Scripting: Write complex automation scripts
- System Security: Learn about firewalls, SSL certificates, and security hardening
- **Performance Tuning**: Optimize system performance and troubleshoot issues
- DevOps Tools: Explore CI/CD pipelines, configuration management, and infrastructure as code
- **Cloud Computing**: Learn about AWS, Azure, Google Cloud, and cloud-native technologies

☐ Additional Resources

- Man Pages: Use man command to get detailed information about any command
- Linux Documentation Project: Comprehensive guides and HOWTOs
- Online Communities: Join forums, Discord servers, and Reddit communities
- **Practice Environments**: Set up virtual machines or use cloud platforms for hands-on learning

Contributing to This Project

This eBook is open source and community-driven. We welcome contributions from developers and Linux enthusiasts around the world:

☐ How to Contribute

- Add New Commands: Help us reach our goal of covering even more Linux commands
- Improve Examples: Add better examples or use cases for existing commands
- Fix Issues: Report bugs, typos, or outdated information
- **Translations**: Help translate this eBook into other languages
- Share Knowledge: Add tips, tricks, and best practices

Visit our GitHub repository to get started with contributing.

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Final Words

Linux is more than just an operating system—it's a philosophy of open collaboration, continuous learning, and technological empowerment. The commands you've learned in this eBook are tools that will serve you throughout your career in technology.

Whether you're a system administrator managing servers, a developer building applications, a DevOps engineer automating deployments, or simply a curious learner exploring technology, these Linux commands will be invaluable companions on your journey.

Remember: **The terminal is your friend**. Don't be afraid to experiment, make mistakes, and learn from them. Every Linux expert started exactly where you are now.

☐ Keep Learning, Keep Growing

The world of Linux is vast and constantly evolving. Stay curious, keep practicing, and most importantly, have fun exploring the incredible power and flexibility that Linux offers.

Happy Linux-ing!

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