



# Bella Teaches the Linux Command Line

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A. Bradford

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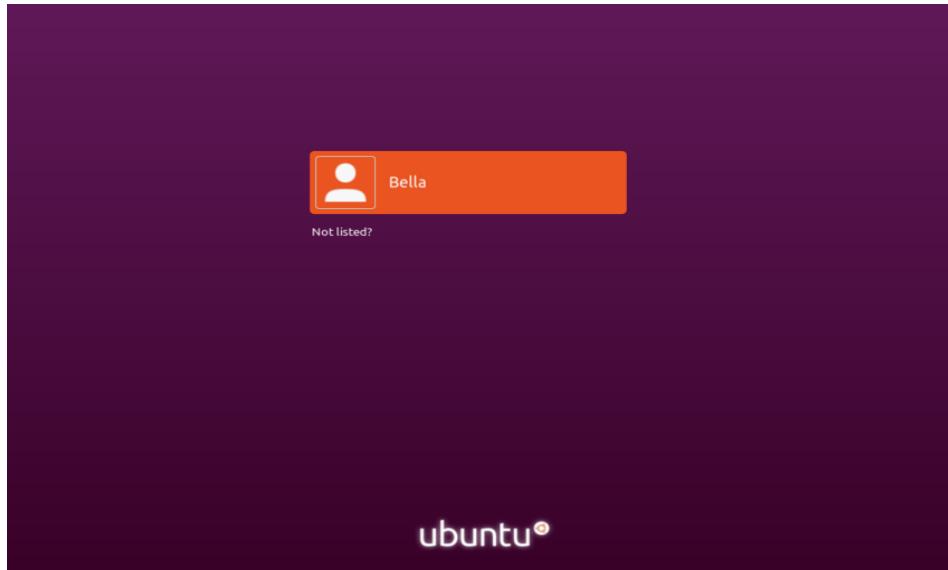
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# 1 Login Screen, Desktop and Terminal

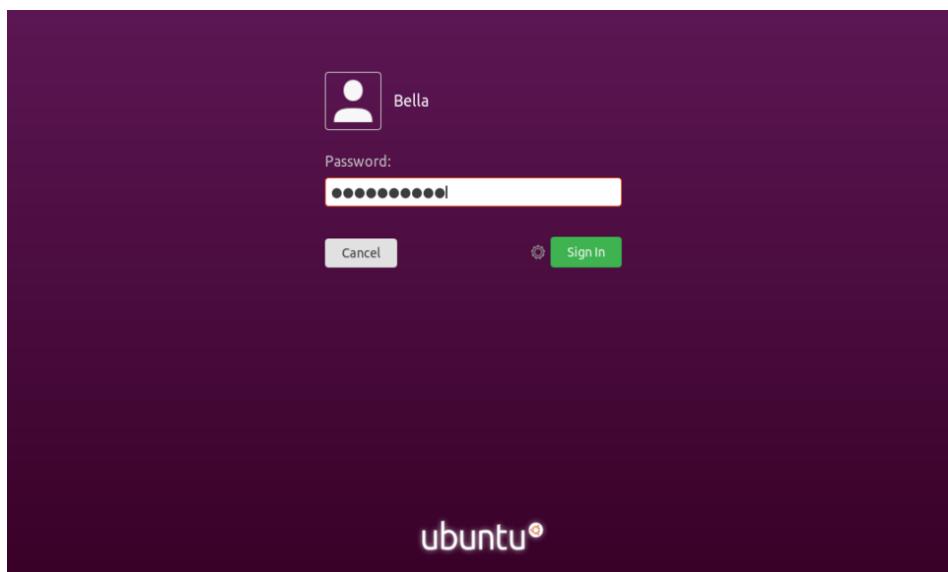
Examples are given with Ubuntu Linux. Other Linux distributions should be similar.

## 1.1 Login Screen

Start the Linux computer and it will proceed to the login screen.

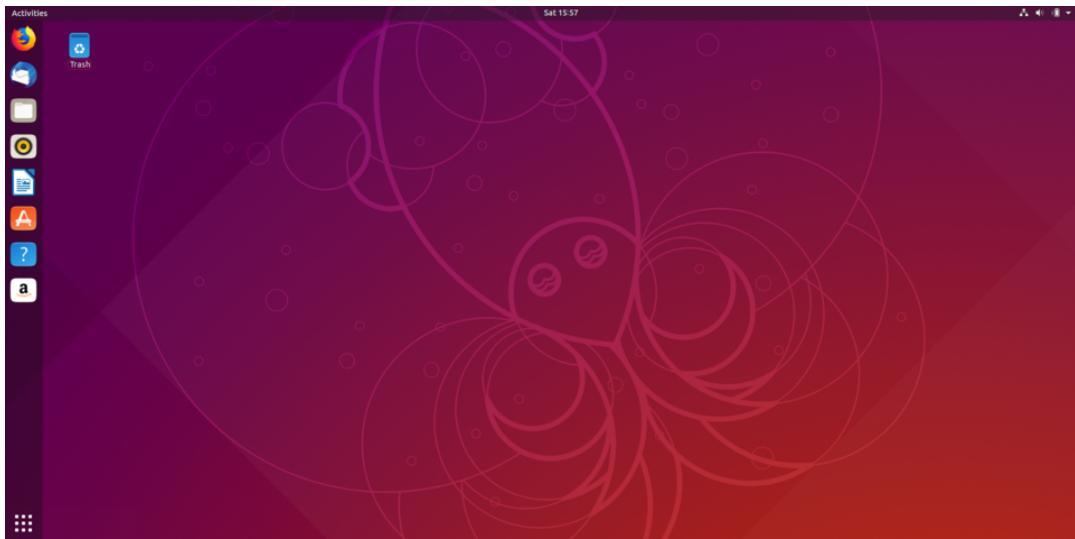


Select the user name and enter the password.



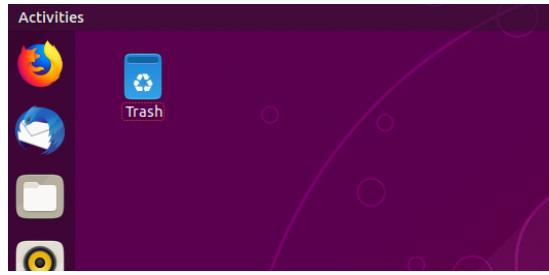
## 1.2 Desktop

The Linux desktop will display.

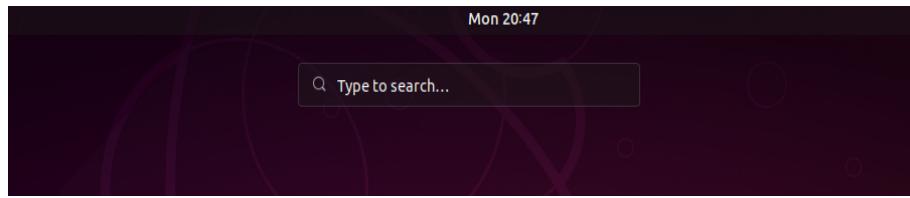


## 1.3 Terminal

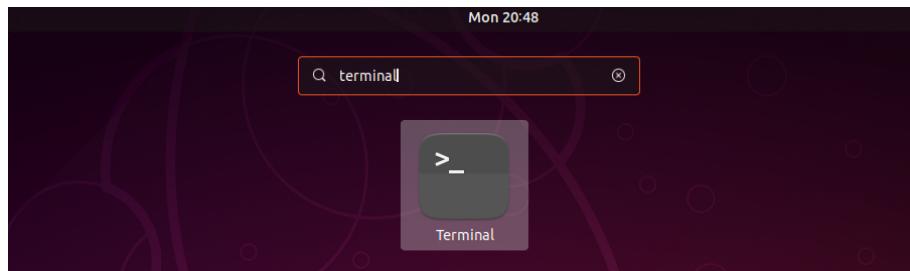
We will proceed to open a Linux terminal. On the upper left hand side of the screen select Activities.



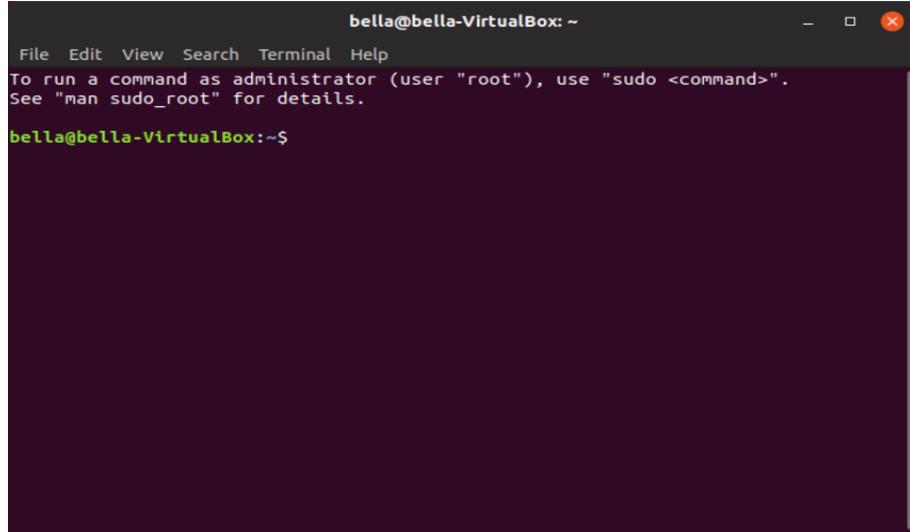
A input box saying “Type To Search” box will appear.



Inside the “Type To Search” input box type the word Terminal.



The Linux terminal will appear. The terminal is also known as the Linux Shell or the command line.



Congratulations! You have logged into Linux and opened a terminal on the desktop! The Linux Terminal is a command language interpreter that executes commands read from your input. In the next chapter we will execute some commands.

## 2 Linux Commands



### 2.1 whoami

The command `whoami` prints your userid. At the Linux terminal type the command `whoami`.

```
bella@bella-VirtualBox:~$ whoami  
bella  
bella@bella-VirtualBox:~$ █
```

Linux responds that Bella is logged in. Your system should respond that you're logged in by displaying your login name.

### 2.2 ls

The command `ls` lists directory contents. Directories can also be called folders. At the Linux terminal type the command `ls`.

```
bella@bella-VirtualBox:~$ ls  
Desktop Documents Downloads Music Pictures Public Templates Videos  
bella@bella-VirtualBox:~$ █
```

We see Bella has the following directories:

Desktop, Documents, Downloads, Music, Pictures, Public, Templates, Videos.

We can look inside an individual directory by giving command `ls` a specific directory name to look in. Type: `ls Music`

```
bella@bella-VirtualBox:~$ ls  
Desktop Documents Downloads Music Pictures Public Templates Videos  
bella@bella-VirtualBox:~$ ls Music  
bella@bella-VirtualBox:~$ █
```

Looks like Bella has no music.

We can check if Bella has any documents. Type: `ls Documents`

```
bella@bella-VirtualBox:~$ ls  
Desktop Documents Downloads Music Pictures Public Templates Videos  
bella@bella-VirtualBox:~$ ls Music  
bella@bella-VirtualBox:~$ ls Documents  
bella@bella-VirtualBox:~$ █
```

Bella has no documents



## 2.3 `pwd`

The command `pwd` is used to print the name of current working directory.

```
bella@bella-VirtualBox:~$ pwd  
/home/bella  
bella@bella-VirtualBox:~$ █
```

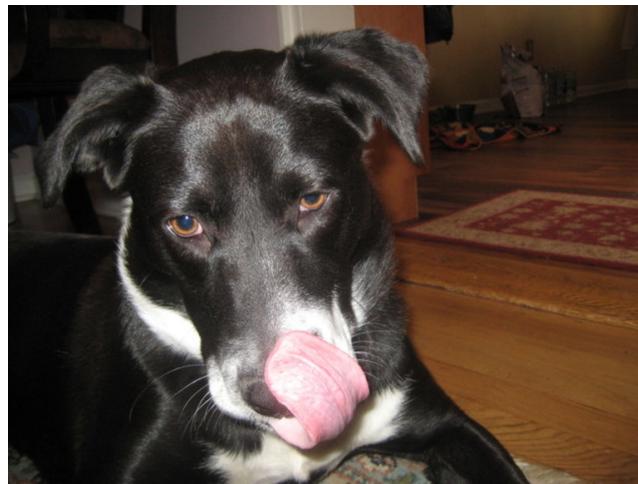
Bella's current working directory is “/home/bella”. Therefore the “bella” directory is inside the “home” directory.

## 2.4 mkdir and rmdir

When using the command `ls` we can see that Bella has the following folders in her “/home/bella” directory.

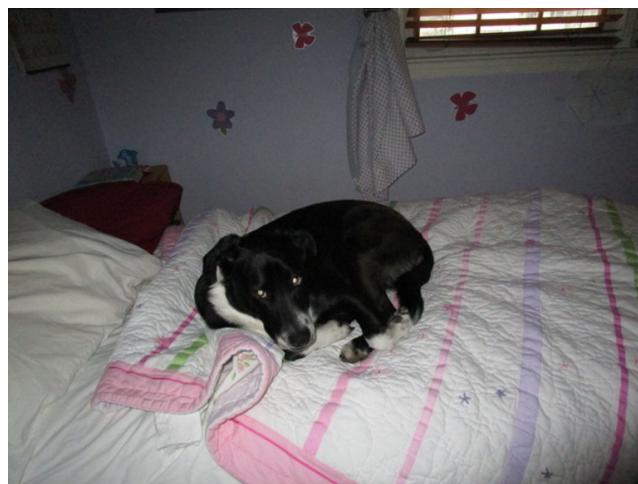
```
Desktop, Documents, Downloads, Music, Pictures, Public, Templates, Videos
```

Try typing the command `ls` and enter again.



## 2.5 cd

At the Linux terminal type the command `cd`.



## 2.6 echo and cat

At the Linux terminal type the command `echo`.



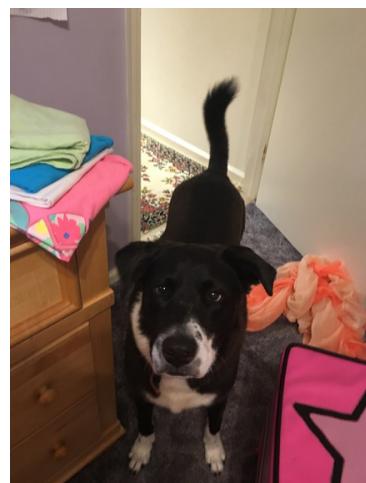
## 2.7 cp and rm



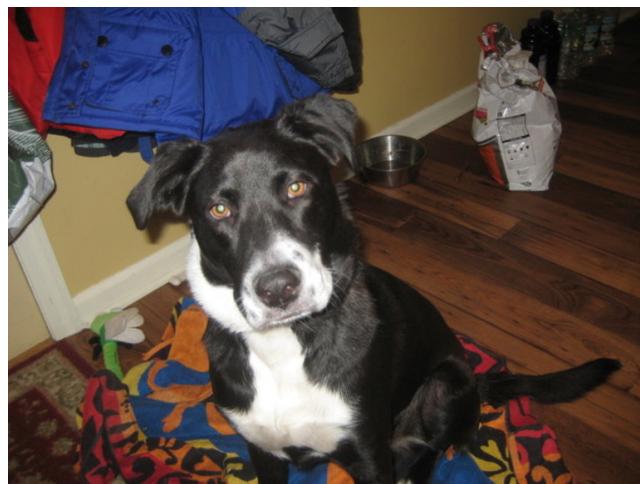
## 2.8 gedit



## 2.9 more and less



## 2.10 man



**2.11 date**



**2.12 cal**



**2.13 top**



**2.14 clear**



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