

1. Ubuntu vs Windows – Key Differences

- **Cost:** Ubuntu free, Windows paid.
- **Security:** Ubuntu safer, Windows more virus-prone.
- **Performance:** Ubuntu lighter, Windows heavier.
- **Software:** Windows supports more apps/games, Ubuntu limited.
- **User Interface:**
 - Ubuntu → GNOME (customizable, less beginner-friendly).
 - Windows → Familiar GUI, user-friendly.
- **Customization:** Ubuntu highly customizable, Windows less.

2. What is kernel?

A kernel is the core part of an operating system.

- It manages hardware and software communication.
- Controls CPU, memory, devices, and processes.
- Acts as a bridge between applications and hardware.

👉 In short: Kernel = the heart of the OS that controls everything.

3. Kernel vs OS vs Distro

- **Kernel** → Core part of OS, manages hardware & resources. (e.g., Linux kernel)
- **Operating System (OS)** → Full system that includes kernel + tools + UI to run a computer. (e.g., Linux, Windows)
- **Distribution (Distro)** → A packaged version of an OS (kernel + software + desktop environment). (e.g., Ubuntu, Fedora)

👉 Simple: **Kernel** = heart, **OS** = body, **Distro** = different flavors of that body.

4. Ubuntu Variants: Desktop, Server, Minimal

Ubuntu Variants:

- **Ubuntu Desktop** → For personal computers; comes with GUI (GNOME).
- **Ubuntu Server** → For servers; no GUI by default, optimized for performance and services.

- **Ubuntu Minimal** → Lightweight version; **only core packages, for custom setups.**

👉 Simple: **Desktop** = GUI use, **Server** = services, **Minimal** = lightweight/custom.

5. UEFI, BIOS, GRUB Bootloader

- **BIOS (Basic Input/Output System)** → Firmware that starts the computer and loads the bootloader.
- **UEFI (Unified Extensible Firmware Interface)** → Modern firmware that replaces BIOS, faster, supports large disks, secure boot.
- **GRUB (GRand Unified Bootloader)** → Program that loads and manages the operating system after BIOS/UEFI (Bootloader).

Example: GRUB, Windows, Boot Manager.

👉 Simple: **BIOS/UEFI** = starts system, **GRUB** = loads OS, **Bootloader** = starter that launches the OS.

👉 Flow: **UEFI/BIOS** → **GRUB** → **OS**.

6. Filesystem Types: ext4, swap, NTFS

- **ext4** (Fourth Extended Filesystem) → Default Linux filesystem, reliable, supports large files.
- **swap** → Disk space used as extra RAM.
- **NTFS** (New Technology File System) → Default Windows filesystem, supports permissions, large files.

👉 Simple: **ext4** = Linux data, **swap** = virtual RAM, **NTFS** = Windows data.

50 Essential Linux Terminal Commands

A. System Navigation

1. **pwd** → Prints the current working directory.
 2. **ls -l** → Lists files in long format (permissions, owner, size, date).
 3. **cd** → Changes the current directory.
 4. **tree** → Displays directory structure in a tree-like format.
 5. **find / -name filename** → Searches for a file by name starting from /.
 6. **du -sh *** → Shows disk usage of files/folders in human-readable format.
 7. **df -h** → Shows free and used disk space on mounted filesystems.
 8. **stat filename** → Displays detailed file info (size, permissions, timestamps).
 9. **realpath file** → Prints the absolute path of a file.
 10. **basename path** → Extracts the filename from a full path.
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B. File Management

11. **touch file.txt** → Creates an empty file or updates its timestamp.
 12. **cp file1 file2** → Copies file1 to file2.
 13. **mv file1 newname** → Moves/renames a file.
 14. **rm file.txt** → Deletes a file.
 15. **mkdir dir** → Creates a new directory.
 16. **rmdir dir** → Removes an empty directory.
 17. **nano file.txt** → Opens a file in the Nano text editor.
 18. **cat file** → Displays file contents.
 19. **more file** → Views file contents page by page (forward only).
 20. **less file** → Views file contents with navigation (forward & backward).
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C. Permissions & Ownership

- **chmod +x script.sh** → Makes a script/executable file runnable by giving execute permission.
- **chown user:group file** → Changes ownership of a file to a specific user and group.

- **ls -lah** → Lists files in a directory with detailed info, human-readable sizes, and hidden files.
 - **umask** → Shows/sets default file permission mask for newly created files.
 - **id** → Displays user ID (UID), group ID (GID), and group memberships of the current user.
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D. Process Management

- **ps aux** → Shows all running processes with detailed information.
 - **top** → Real-time view of running processes, resource usage, and system load.
 - **htop** → Improved interactive version of **top** (install separately).
 - **kill PID** → Terminates a process using its Process ID.
 - **pkill processname** → Kills processes by name instead of PID.
 - **jobs** → Lists background and stopped jobs in the current shell.
 - **fg** → Brings a background job to the foreground.
 - **bg** → Resumes a stopped job in the background.
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E. Networking

- **ip a** → Shows all network interfaces, IP addresses, and status.
- **ping google.com** → Tests connectivity to a host by sending ICMP packets.
- **ifconfig** → Displays/sets network interface configuration (from **net-tools**).
- **netstat -tulnp** → Lists open ports, active connections, and listening services.
- **curl example.com** → Fetches data from a URL (supports many protocols).
- **wget http://file** → Downloads files from the web.
- **hostname** → Shows or sets the system's hostname.
- **nmap** → Advanced network scanner for discovering hosts and services.

1. `lsblk` (List Block Devices)

- Shows **all block devices** (disks, partitions, USB drives, etc.).
- Displays structure like a **tree view**.
- Doesn't show free space — just device layout.

Example:

```
lsblk
```

Output:

NAME	MAJ:MIN	RM	SIZE	RO	TYPE	MOUNTPOINT
sda	8:0	0	100G	0	disk	
├─sda1	8:1	0	96G	0	part	/
└─sda2	8:2	0	4G	0	part	[SWAP]
sdb	8:16	0	32G	0	disk	/media/usb

- sda → Main disk.
 - sda1 → Root partition /.
 - sda2 → Swap partition.
 - sdb → USB drive.
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2. `df -h` (Disk Free - human readable)

- Shows **disk usage (used/free space)** of mounted filesystems.
- Units shown in **human-readable format** (MB, GB).

Example:

```
df -h
```

Output:

Filesystem	Size	Used	Avail	Use%	Mounted on
/dev/sda1	96G	20G	71G	22%	/
/dev/sdb1	32G	5G	25G	17%	/media/usb
tmpfs	2.0G	0	2.0G	0%	/dev/shm

- Size → Total size.
 - Used → Space used.
 - Avail → Free space left.
 - Mounted on → Where it's attached in the filesystem.
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✓ Difference at a Glance

Command	Purpose	Shows
lsblk	Device layout	Disks, partitions, mount points (no usage %)
df -h	Disk usage	Size, used, available, usage %, mount points

1. Create a folder, move into it, and create 5 dummy files

```
mkdir linux_lab  
cd linux_lab  
touch file1.txt file2.txt file3.txt file4.txt file5.txt
```

2. Redirect the output of `ls -l` into `list.txt`

```
ls -l > list.txt
```

3. Command chaining example

```
mkdir test && cd test && touch hello.txt
```

4. Find all `.txt` files in `/home`

```
find /home -name "*.txt"
```

5. Short notes on practice commands

- **Ctrl+R** → Search command history.
- **!!** → Run the last command again.
- **Tab** → Auto-complete file/directory names.

1. Key Directories

- **/home** → Stores user files and personal data.
 - **/etc** → Configuration files for the system.
 - **/var** → Variable data like logs, mail, cache.
 - **/bin** → Essential user commands (binaries).
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2. Find current filesystem

👉 Both show the filesystem type (e.g., ext4, xfs).

Using `lsblk -f`:

bash

NAME	FSTYPE	LABEL	UUID	MOUNTPOINT
sda				
└─sda1	ext4		a1b2c3d4-e5f6-7890-1234-56789abcdef0	/
└─sda2	swap		1111-2222-3333-4444-5555aaaa6666	[SWAP]

Using `df -T`:

bash

Filesystem	Type	1K-blocks	Used	Available	Use%	Mounted on
/dev/sda1	ext4	488281250	1234567	486046683	3%	/
tmpfs	tmpfs	4048576	1024	4047552	1%	/run

👉 From this, you can see the system is using **ext4** as the main filesystem.

3. Navigate to /etc directory, list all hidden file, return back to home

Here's the short solution with commands:

```
cd /etc          # go to /etc directory
ls -a            # list all files including hidden ones
cd ~             # return back to home directory
```

👉 -a option shows hidden files (those starting with .).

4. Write a command that redirect both output and error of the command ls /nonexistent into a file named error.log

```
ls /nonexistent &> error.log
```

5. File permissioning

```
-rwx--x--x 1 ashfak developers 0 Sep 10 21:00 script.sh
```

Columns:

rwx → owner can read, write, execute

- - x → group can execute only

- - x → others can execute only

1 → Number of links

ashfak → Owner (user)

developers → Group

0 → File size in bytes

Sep 10 21:00 → Last modified date & time

script.sh → Filename

👉 Simple: ls -l shows permissions, ownership, size, date, and name.

6. Change the permission of script.sh

```
chmod 711 script.sh
```

Explanation:

7 (owner) → read + write + execute

1 (group) → execute only

1 (others) → execute only