

Basic Linux Commands Cheat Sheet

Command	Description
File Management	
ls	List content of current directory
ls -a	List content of current directory, including hidden files
cd	Change directory to home
cd ..	Go up one directory
cd /	Go to root directory
cd <i>dir</i>	Change directory to <i>dir</i>
pwd	Print current working directory
rm <i>file</i>	Remove <i>file</i>
rmdir <i>dir</i>	Remove <i>dir</i>
cat > <i>file.py</i>	Create <i>file.py</i>
mkdir <i>dir</i>	Create directory <i>dir</i>
cp <i>file1 file2</i>	Copy <i>file1</i> to <i>file2</i>
mv <i>file1 file2</i>	Move/rename <i>file1</i> to <i>file2</i>
head <i>file</i>	Output first 10 lines of <i>file</i>
tail <i>file</i>	Output last 10 lines of <i>file</i>
find <i>file</i>	Search for <i>file</i>
tar xf <i>file.tar</i>	Extract files from <i>file.tar</i>
cat <i>file.txt</i>	See <i>file</i> content
less <i>file.txt</i>	See <i>file</i> content page by page (space: next page, q: quit)
/word	While in "less" searches for "word", press n to find next
grep -n ' <i>expression</i> ' <i>file.txt</i>	Search for <i>expression</i> in <i>file</i> with line #
head <i>file.txt</i>	See first 10 lines of <i>file</i>
tail <i>file.txt</i>	See last 10 lines of <i>file</i>
System Information	
cat /proc/cpuinfo	Output cpu information
cat /proc/meminfo	Output memory information
df	Show disk usage
w	Show who is online
date	Show current date and time
du -s	Disk usage summary
Process Management	
top	Display all running processes
ps	Display currently active processes
killall <i>proc</i>	Kill process named <i>proc</i>
Network & Connection	
ssh <i>user@host</i>	SSH to <i>host</i> as <i>user</i>
ping <i>host</i>	Ping <i>host</i>
wget <i>file</i>	Download <i>file</i>
Miscellaneous	
sudo <i>command</i>	Run <i>command</i> in superuser mode
sudo shutdown	Shutdown system
sudo reboot	Reboot system
python	Run python
vi	Open visual editor
Ctrl + C	Shortcut: halts current command
Ctrl + Z	Shortcut: stops current command
clear	Clear command line
ls *list	Lists all files with name ending with list
ls ?list	? matches only one character
df .	Available disk space
diff <i>file1 file2</i>	Compares the contents of two <i>files</i> and displays the differences