

Unit 3 - Running Commands and Getting Help

cal	Calendar
clear	Clears screen.
bc	Calculator.
ls	Lists the contents of a directory.
date	Tells you the date and time in Unix.
exit	Exit from a program, shell or log you out of a Unix network.
man	Display a manual of a command.
echo	Displays text after echo to the terminal.
login	Signs into a new system.
logout	Logs out of a system.
pwd	Print the current working directory.
who	Displays who is on the system.
shutdown	Turn off the computer immediately or at a specified time.
mkdir	Create a directory.
cd, chdir	Change directory.
rmdir	Deletes a directory.
sleep	Waits a x amount of seconds.
touch	Change file access and modification time.
help	If computer has online help documentation installed this command will display it.
cat	View and/or modify a file.
cp	Copy files.
rm	Deletes a file without confirmation (by default).
mv	Renames a file or moves it from one directory to another directory.
cut	Cut out selected fields of each line of a file.
grep	Finds text within a file.
less	Opposite of the more command.
more	Displays text one screen at a time.
diff	Displays two files and prints the lines that are different.
cmp	Compare files.
sort	Sorts the lines in a text file.
file	Tells you if the object you are looking at is a file or if it is a directory.
head	Displays the first ten lines of a file, unless otherwise stated.
tail	Delivers the last part of the file.
ln	Creates a link to a file.
umask	Get or set the file mode creation mask.
unalias	Remove an alias.
wc	Displays a count of lines, words, and characters in a file
split	Split a file into pieces.
tr	Translate characters.

ps	Reports the process status.
kill	Cancels a job.
nice	Invokes a command with an altered scheduling priority.
stat	Display file or filesystem status.
jobs	List the jobs currently running in the background.
id	Shows you the numeric user and group ID on BSD.
hostname	Set or print name of current host system.
du	Tells you how much space a file occupies.
df	Display the available disk space for each mount.
history	Display the history of commands typed.
uname	Print name of current system.
chmod	Change the permission of a file.
chown	Change the ownership of a file.
chgrp	Change a groups access to a file or directory.
quit	Allows you to exit from a program, shell or log you out of a Unix network.
set	Set the value of an environment variable.
setenv	Set the value of an environment variable.
vi	Screen-oriented (visual) display editor based on ex.
vim	A programmers text editor.
which	Locate a command.

\$cal Calendar for the month and the year.
Syntax : *cal [month] [year]*

Month Specifies the month for you want the calendar to be displayed. Must be the numeric representation of the month. For example: January is 1 and December is 12.

Year Specifies the year that you want to be displayed.

Examples

cal - Would give you the calendar for this month.

cal 9 1757 - Would give you the calendar for September of 1757.

\$echo Echo's to the screen what you type after echo. Echo is useful for producing diagnostics in command files, for sending known data into a pipe, and for displaying the contents of environment variables.

Syntax *echo [-n] text*

-n On [BSD](#) and some variants derived from BSD does not begin a new line after the echoed text.

Text The text that you want to echo to the screen.

Examples **Echo Hello world**

The above example would return "Hello world" to the console

echo * | wc

The above example would list a count of all the files and directories in the current directory.

\$ls Lists the contents of a [directory](#).

Syntax `ls [-a] [-A] [-b] [-c] [-C] [-d] [-f] [-F] [-g] [-i] [-l] [-L] [-m] [-o] [-p] [-q] [-r] [-R] [-s] [-t] [-u] [-x] [pathnames]`

-a	Shows you all files, even files that are hidden (these files begin with a dot.)
-A	List all files including the hidden files. However, does not display the working directory (.) or the parent directory (..).
-d	If an argument is a directory it only lists its name not its contents.
-i	For each file, print the i-node number in the first column of the report.
-l	Shows you huge amounts of information (permissions, owners, size, and when last modified.)
-L	If an argument is a symbolic link, list the file or directory the link references rather than the link itself.
-r	Reverses the order of how the files are displayed.
-R	Includes the contents of subdirectories.
-s	Give size in blocks, including indirect blocks, for each entry.
-t	Shows you the files in modification time.

Examples `ls -l`

In the above example this command would list each of the files in the current directory and the files permissions, the size of the file, date of the last modification, and the file name or directory. Below is additional information about each of the fields this command lists.

Permissions	Directories	Group	Size	Date	Directory or file
drwx-----	2	users	4096	Nov 2 19:51	mail/
drwxr-s---	35	www	32768	Jan 20 22:39	public_html/
-rw-----	1	users	3	Nov 25 02:58	test.txt

Below is a brief description of each of the above categories shown when using the `ls -l` command.

Permissions - The permissions of the directory or file.

Directories - The amount of links or directories within the directory. The default amount of directories is going to always be 2 because of the . and .. directories.

Group - The group assigned to the file or directory

Size - Size of the file or directory.

Date - Date of last modification.

Directory of file - The name of the file or file.

`ls ~` List the contents of your home directory by adding a [tilde](#) after the `ls` command.

`ls /` List the contents of your [root](#) directory.

`ls ../` List the contents of the parent directory.

`ls */` List the contents of all sub directories.

`ls -d */` Only list the directories in the current directory.