***Linux Commands Cheat Sheet***

*1. ls (List Directory Contents)*

Lists all files and directories in the current working directory.

Syntax:

ls [OPTION] [DIRECTORY]

Examples:

**ls # Lists files and folders in the current directory**

**ls -l # Displays detailed information**

**ls -a # Shows all files, including hidden ones**

**ls -lh # Shows file sizes in human-readable format**

*2. cd (Change Directory)*

Moves between directories.

Syntax:

cd [DIRECTORY]

Examples:

**cd Documents # Moves into the Documents directory**

**cd .. # Moves one directory up**

**cd /home/user/Downloads # Moves to an absolute path**

**cd ~ # Moves to the home directory**

*3. cp (Copy Files and Directories)*

Copies files or directories.

Syntax:

**cp [OPTION] SOURCE DESTINATION**

Examples:

**cp file1.txt file2.txt # Copies file1.txt to file2.txt**

**cp -r folder1 folder2 # Copies folder1 and all contents into folder2**

**cp -i file1.txt /backup/ # Prompts before overwriting**

*4. mv (Move/Rename Files and Directories)*

Moves or renames files/directories.

Syntax:

mv [SOURCE] [DESTINATION]

Examples:

**mv oldname.txt newname.txt # Renames a file**

**mv file.txt /home/user/Documents/ # Moves file to another directory**

**mv \*.txt /backup/ # Moves all .txt files to /backup/**

*5. rm (Remove Files and Directories)*

Deletes files or directories.

Syntax:

rm [OPTION] FILE

Examples:

**rm file.txt # Deletes file.txt**

**rm -i file.txt # Asks for confirmation before deleting**

**rm -r myfolder/ # Deletes myfolder and all contents**

⚠ Be careful! Deleted files cannot be recovered.

*6. pwd (Print Working Directory)*

Displays the current directory path.

Example:

**pwd**

*7. mkdir (Make Directory)*

Creates a new directory.

Examples:

**mkdir myfolder # Creates a folder named myfolder**

**mkdir -p parent/child # Creates parent and child directories if missing**

*8. rmdir (Remove Empty Directory)*

Deletes empty directories.

Examples:

**rmdir myfolder # Deletes myfolder if empty**

**rm -r myfolder # Removes folder and contents**

*9. less, more, cat (Display File Contents)*

Examples:

**less file.txt # View file page by page (Press q to exit)**

**more file.txt # Similar to less, but only scrolls forward**

**cat file.txt # Displays entire file content**

**cat file1.txt file2.txt > combined.txt # Combines two files into one**

*10. man (Manual Pages)*

Displays help documentation for a command.

Examples:

**man ls # Shows the manual for ls**

**man -k copy # Finds commands related to 'copy'**

*11. whatis (Brief Description of a Command)*

Example:

**whatis ls # Shows a short description of ls command**

*12. su (Switch User)*

Switches to another user.

Examples:

**su root # Switches to root user**

**su username # Switches to another user**

**exit # Returns to the previous user**

*13. passwd (Change Password)*

Examples:

**passwd # Changes the current user's password**

**passwd username # Changes another user's password (root access required)**

*14. useradd & userdel (Manage Users)*

Examples:

**sudo useradd newuser # Creates a new user**

**sudo passwd newuser # Sets a password for newuser**

**sudo userdel newuser # Deletes user**

**sudo userdel -r newuser # Deletes user and home directory**

*15. mount & umount (Manage Filesystems)*

Examples:

**sudo mount /dev/sdb1 /mnt/usb # Mounts a USB drive**

**sudo umount /mnt/usb # Unmounts a USB drive**

*16. df (Check Disk Space Usage)*

Examples:

**df -h # Shows disk usage in human-readable format**

**df -T # Displays filesystem type**

*17. shutdown (Power Off or Restart)*

Examples:

**sudo shutdown -h now # Shuts down immediately**

**sudo shutdown -h +10 # Shuts down after 10 minutes**

**sudo shutdown -r now # Reboots the system**

*18. apt-get (Package Management - Debian/Ubuntu)*

Examples:

**sudo apt-get update # Updates the package list**

**sudo apt-get install vim # Installs Vim**

**sudo apt-get remove vim # Removes Vim**

**sudo apt-get upgrade # Upgrades all installed packages**

*19. yum (Package Management - RHEL/CentOS)*

Examples:

**sudo yum update # Updates all installed packages**

**sudo yum install nano # Installs Nano**

**sudo yum remove nano # Removes Nano**

**sudo yum list installed # Lists all installed packages**

*20. wget (Download Files)*

Examples:

**wget https://example.com/file.zip # Downloads file.zip**

**wget -O custom\_name.zip https://example.com/file.zip # Saves file with custom name**

**wget -c https://example.com/file.zip # Continues an interrupted download**

*21. gzip & tar (Compression and Archiving)*

Examples:

**gzip file.txt # Compresses file.txt**

**gunzip file.txt.gz # Decompresses file**

**tar -cvf archive.tar file1 file2 # Creates an archive**

**tar -xvf archive.tar # Extracts archive**

**tar -czvf archive.tar.gz folder/ # Creates a compressed archive**

**tar -xzvf archive.tar.gz # Extracts compressed archive**

*22. System Information Commands*

Examples:

**uname -m # Shows machine architecture**

**cat /proc/cpuinfo # Displays CPU info**

**uname -r # Shows kernel version**

**date # Shows current date & time**

This cheat sheet covers essential Linux commands for file management, user control, package management, and system monitoring.