

Linux Command Cheat Sheet

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In this Linux/Unix command line cheat sheet, you will learn:

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Basic Linux commands

Command	Description
<code>ls</code>	Lists all files and directories in the present working directory
<code>ls -R</code>	Lists files in sub-directories as well
<code>ls -a</code>	Lists hidden files as well
<code>ls -al</code>	Lists files and directories with detailed information like permissions,size, owner, etc.
<code>cd or cd ~</code>	Navigate to HOME directory
<code>cd ..</code>	Move one level up
<code>cd</code>	To change to a particular directory

Command	Description
<code>cd /</code>	Move to the root directory
<code>cat > filename</code>	Creates a new file
<code>cat filename</code>	Displays the file content
<code>cat file1 file2 > file3</code>	Joins two files (file1, file2) and stores the output in a new file (file3)
<code>mv file "new file path"</code>	Moves the files to the new location
<code>mv filename new_file_name</code>	Renames the file to a new filename
<code>sudo</code>	Allows regular users to run programs with the security privileges of the superuser or root
<code>rm filename</code>	Deletes a file
<code>man</code>	Gives help information on a command
<code>history</code>	Gives a list of all past commands typed in the current terminal session
<code>clear</code>	Clears the terminal
<code>mkdir directoryname</code>	Creates a new directory in the present working directory or at the specified path
<code>rmdir</code>	Deletes a directory
<code>mv</code>	Renames a directory
<code>pr -x</code>	Divides the file into x columns
<code>pr -h</code>	Assigns a header to the file

Command	Description
<code>pr -n</code>	Denotes the file with Line Numbers
<code>lp -nc , lpr c</code>	Prints “c” copies of the File
<code>lp-d lp-P</code>	Specifies name of the printer
<code>apt-get</code>	Command used to install and update packages
<code>mail -s 'subject'</code> <code>-c 'cc-address'</code> <code>-b 'bcc-address'</code> <code>'to-address'</code>	Command to send email
<code>mail -s "Subject"</code> <code>to-address <</code> <code>Filename</code>	Command to send email with attachment

File Permission commands

Command	Description
<code>ls -l</code>	to show file type and access permission
<code>r</code>	read permission
<code>w</code>	write permission
<code>x</code>	execute permission
<code>--</code>	no permission

Command	Description
<code>Chown user</code>	For changing the ownership of a file/directory
<code>Chown user:group filename</code>	change the user as well as group for a file or directory

Environment Variables command

Command	Description
<code>echo \$VARIABLE</code>	To display value of a variable
<code>env</code>	Displays all environment variables
<code>VARIABLE_NAME= variable_value</code>	Create a new variable
<code>Unset</code>	Remove a variable
<code>export Variable=value</code>	To set value of an environment variable

User management commands of linux

Command	Description
<code>sudo adduser username</code>	To add a new user
<code>sudo passwd -l 'username'</code>	To change the password of a user
<code>sudo userdel -r 'username'</code>	To remove a newly created user
<code>sudo usermod -a -G GROUPNAME USERNAME</code>	To add a user to a group
<code>sudo deluser USER GROUPNAME</code>	To remove a user from a group
<code>finger</code>	Shows information of all the users

Command	Description
	logged in
<code>finger username</code>	Gives information of a particular user

Networking command

Command	Description
<code>SSH username@ip-address or hostname</code>	login into a remote Linux machine using SSH
<code>Ping hostname="" or =""</code>	To ping and Analyzing network and host connections
<code>dir</code>	Display files in the current directory of a remote computer
<code>cd "dirname"</code>	change directory to “dirname” on a remote computer
<code>put file</code>	upload ‘file’ from local to remote computer
<code>get file</code>	Download ‘file’ from remote to local computer
<code>quit</code>	Logout

Process command

Command	Description
<code>bg</code>	To send a process to the background
<code>fg</code>	To run a stopped process in the foreground

Command	Description
<code>top</code>	Details on all Active Processes
<code>ps</code>	Give the status of processes running for a user
<code>ps PID</code>	Gives the status of a particular process
<code>pidof</code>	Gives the Process ID (PID) of a process
<code>kill PID</code>	Kills a process
<code>nice</code>	Starts a process with a given priority
<code>renice</code>	Changes priority of an already running process
<code>df</code>	Gives free hard disk space on your system
<code>free</code>	Gives free RAM on your system

VI Editing Commands

Command	Description
<code>i</code>	Insert at cursor (goes into insert mode)
<code>a</code>	Write after cursor (goes into insert mode)
<code>A</code>	Write at the end of line (goes into insert mode)
<code>ESC</code>	Terminate insert mode
<code>u</code>	Undo last change
<code>U</code>	Undo all changes to the entire line
<code>o</code>	Open a new line (goes into insert mode)
<code>dd</code>	Delete line

Command	Description
<code>3dd</code>	Delete 3 lines
<code>D</code>	Delete contents of line after the cursor
<code>C</code>	Delete contents of a line after the cursor and insert new text. Press ESC key to end insertion.
<code>dw</code>	Delete word
<code>4dw</code>	Delete 4 words
<code>cw</code>	Change word
<code>x</code>	Delete character at the cursor
<code>r</code>	Replace character
<code>R</code>	Overwrite characters from cursor onward
<code>s</code>	Substitute one character under cursor continue to insert
<code>S</code>	Substitute entire line and begin to insert at the beginning of the line
<code>~</code>	Change case of individual character

Hope this Linux reference guide helps you!

You Might Like:

- [UNIX / Linux Tutorial for Beginners: Learn Online in 7 days](#)
- [15 BEST Linux Books \(2024 Update\)](#)
- [Telnet vs SSH – Difference Between Them](#)
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