

ChatGPT ▾  Free offer × Share ⋮

linux commands with explanation (ubuntu linux)

Here's a list of essential **Ubuntu Linux commands** with clear explanations and examples:

## File & Directory Management

### 1. pwd

**Print Working Directory** – Shows your current location in the filesystem.

bash

 Copy code **pwd**

### 2. ls

**List files and directories.**

bash

 Copy code **ls**  
 **ls -l** # detailed list  
 **ls -a** # show hidden files

### 3. cd

**Change Directory**

bash

 Copy code **cd /home**  
 **cd ..** # move up one directory  
 **cd ~** # go to home directory

### 4. mkdir

## Make Directory

bash

 Copy code

```
mkdir new_folder
```

## 5. rmdir

### Remove empty directory

bash

 Copy code

```
rmdir folder_name
```

## 6. rm

### Remove files or directories

bash

 Copy code

```
rm file.txt  
rm -r folder_name # remove folder recursively  
rm -f file.txt # force remove
```

## 7. cp

### Copy files or directories

bash

 Copy code

```
cp file.txt backup.txt  
cp -r folder1 folder2
```

## 8. mv

### Move or rename files

bash

 Copy code

```
mv file.txt /home/user/  
mv old.txt new.txt
```

## File Viewing & Editing

### 9. cat

Display file contents

bash

 Copy code

```
cat file.txt
```

### 10. less

View file page by page.

bash

 Copy code

```
less file.txt
```

### 11. head

Show first 10 lines.

bash

 Copy code

```
head file.txt  
head -n 20 file.txt
```

### 12. tail

Show last 10 lines.

bash

 Copy code

```
tail file.txt  
tail -f logfile.log # Live monitoring
```

### 13. nano

Simple text editor.

bash

 Copy code

```
nano file.txt
```

## 14. vim

Advanced text editor.

bash

 Copy code

```
vim file.txt
```

## Search & Find

### 15. find

Search for files.

bash

 Copy code

```
find /home -name file.txt
```

### 16. grep

Search text inside files.

bash

 Copy code

```
grep "word" file.txt
```

```
grep -r "word" /home
```

## System Information

### 17. uname

System information.

bash

 Copy code

```
uname -a
```

## 18. top

Shows running processes in real time.

bash

 Copy code

```
top
```

## 19. htop

Enhanced version of top (may require installation).

bash

 Copy code

```
htop
```

## 20. df

Disk space usage.

bash

 Copy code

```
df -h
```

## 21. du

Directory space usage.

bash

 Copy code

```
du -sh folder_name
```

## 22. free

Memory usage.

bash

 Copy code

```
free -h
```



## Package Management (Ubuntu – uses APT)

### 23. sudo apt update

Update package list.

bash

Copy code

```
sudo apt update
```

### 24. sudo apt upgrade

Upgrade installed packages.

bash

Copy code

```
sudo apt upgrade
```

### 25. sudo apt install

Install a package.

bash

Copy code

```
sudo apt install git
```

### 26. sudo apt remove

Remove a package.

bash

Copy code

```
sudo apt remove package_name
```



## User & Permission Management

### 27. whoami

Shows current user.

bash

 Copy code

`whoami`

## 28. chmod

Change file permissions.

bash

 Copy code

`chmod 755 script.sh`

## 29. chown

Change file ownership.

bash

 Copy code

`sudo chown user:user file.txt`

# Networking

## 30. ping

Check network connectivity.

bash

 Copy code

`ping google.com`

## 31. ifconfig (older)

Network configuration.

bash

 Copy code

`ifconfig`

## 32. ip

Modern network command.

bash

 Copy code

```
ip a
```

## 33. wget

Download files from internet.

bash

 Copy code

```
wget https://example.com/file.zip
```

# Process Management

## 34. ps

View running processes.

bash

 Copy code

```
ps aux
```

## 35. kill

Terminate process.

bash

 Copy code

```
kill PID  
kill -9 PID
```

# Superuser

## 36. sudo

Run command as administrator.

bash

 Copy code

`sudo command_name`

If you'd like, I can also provide:

-  Beginner-only commands
-  Advanced commands
-  Commands for developers
-  A printable cheat sheet format
-  Interview-focused Linux commands

Just tell me what you need 😊

      ...