

\$ Software Carpentry: Unix shell cheat sheet

Command	Does
pwd	Print working directory
ls	List contents of directory
cd	Change directory
mkdir	Make new directory
nano	Open file in text editor
mv	Move (rename) file or directory (e.g <code>mv oldname newname</code>)
cp	Copy file
rm	Remove (deletes) file

wc	Word count
cat	conCATenate file(s) (prints them to the terminal)
less	View file contents in the terminal
sort	Sort lines of file (alphanumerically by default)
head	Print the first lines of a file
tail	Print the last lines of a file
echo	Print to the terminal
cut	Print specific columns of file to the terminal

.	The current directory
..	The directory containing the current directory (parent directory)
/	On its own: the root of the file system.
/	As part of a filename: separator between directories (e.g. <code>Desktop/photo.png</code>)
*	Matches zero or more characters (e.g <code>*.txt</code> matches all files ending in <code>.txt</code>)
?	Matches single character in a filename, (e.g <code>?.txt</code> matches <code>a.txt</code> but not <code>any.txt</code>)
>	<code>command > [file]</code> put the output of command into [file]
>>	<code>command >> [file]</code> append the output of command to [file]
 	<code>[first] [second]</code> uses the output of [first] as the input of [second]