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## Locate files on linux, FreeBSD and UNIX system

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Q. How do I locate files on Debian Linux?

A. You can use find and locate command.

find command search a file system in real time. So depending on the size of your file system (partition) and the depth of your search, the find command can sometime take a long time to scan all of the data.

To search your entire filesystem for the files called resume.doc type

```
$ find / -name resume.doc
```

locate command list or display files in databases that match a given filenames. This is not a real time reporting. The data reported in the output of locate isn't as fresh as the data reported by find. However it is the fastest way to find a file.

```
$ locate resume.doc
```

### More Find command examples

Please see following previous examples for more information:

- [Linux: Finding/locating files with find command part # 1](#) <sup>[1]</sup>
- [Linux: Finding/locating files with find command part # 2](#) <sup>[2]</sup>
- [Finding all .mp3 files and move to new directory from shell prompt](#) <sup>[3]</sup>
- [Linux or Unix find and remove files with one find command on fly](#) <sup>[4]</sup>
- [How do I find the largest files/directories on a Linux/UNIX/BSD filesystem?](#) <sup>[5]</sup>
- [Find files by access, modification date under Linux or UNIX](#) <sup>[6]</sup>

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URLs in this post:

[1] Linux: Finding/locating files with find command part # 1: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/tips/linux-findinglocating-files-with-find-command-part-1.html>

[2] Linux: Finding/locating files with find command part # 2: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/tips/linux-findinglocating-files-with-find-command-part-2.html>

[3] Finding all .mp3 files and move to new directory from shell prompt : <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/tips/howto-linux-unix-find-move-all-mp3-file.html>

[4] Linux or Unix find and remove files with one find command on fly: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/faq/linux-unix-how-to-find-and-remove-files/>

[5] How do I find the largest files/directories on a Linux/UNIX/BSD filesystem?: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/faq/how-do-i-find-the-largest-filesdirectories-on-a-linuxunixbsd-file-system/>

[6] Find files by access, modification date under Linux or UNIX : <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/faq/howto-finding-files-by-date/>

details <http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/copyright>.