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## Commonly used UNIX / Linux commands by new user

Posted by [Vivek Gite](#) <[vivek@nixcraft.com](mailto:vivek@nixcraft.com)>

**Q.** I'm a new Linux user. Can you tell me commonly used Linux / UNIX command?

**A.** If you are new to Linux/FreeBSD or Solaris then you will find that there are some very powerful commands that you use repeatedly. Here is a list of commonly used commands:



[1]

## Shutdown the operating system

```
halt
init 0
shutdown -h now
```

## Reboot the operating system

```
reboot
init 6
```

Display the manual (man) page for the given command. The must command for mastering Linux/UNIX. If you do not know how to use some command, use man to display its manual page. Remember you can exit a man page by pressing q.

```
man ls
man man
man date
```

Switch the current user. If you logged in as vivek and need to change to user account jadmin, then you need to type following command:

```
su - jadmin
```

However, this command is mostly used to switch super user account. Just type command su - and you will switch to root user account with its entire environment exported

```
su -
```

Display the environment variable:

```
env
```

Display a message on the screen or display value of environment variable. For example, display value of HOME variable:

```
echo $HOME
```

Setup and export environment variable, for example setup JAVA path with following command:

```
export PATH=$PATH:/usr/java/bin
```

Display list of currently running process. To exit top press q

```
top
```

Display full path of shell command. For example display full path of gcc command:

```
which gcc
```

Display list of logged in users

```
who
```

Display what users are doing

```
w
```

Display status of network

```
netstat -r  
netstat -nat
```

Display or setup routing table

```
route
```

Manage network interface

```
ifconfig
```

Red hat Linux menu driven utility to configure system

```
setup
```

Suse Linux menu driven utility to configure system

```
yast2  
yast
```

FreeBSD menu driven utility to configure system

```
sysinstal
```

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