Table Of Contents

Table Of Contents]
How do I find out owner / group name for a file?	2
ls -l file mode (permissions)	3

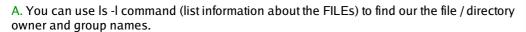
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Home > Faq > BASH Shell

UNIX / Linux Find File Owner Name

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Q. How do I find out the name of file / directory owner under UNIX / Linux operating systems?





The -I option is known as long format which displays Unix / Linux / BSD file types, permissions, number of hard links, owner, group, size, date, and filename. In some environments and UNIX versions / Linux distributions, providing the option --color (for GNU Is) or -G (FreeBSD Is) causes Is to highlight different types of files with different colors.

```
root
                                  7 Nov
                                            2007 rc -> rc.d/rc
lrwxrwxrwx
            1 root
                                         7
lrwxrwxrwx
            1 root root
                                 10
                                   Nov
                                             2007 rc0.d -> rc.d/rc0.d
                                 10 Nov
                                         7
                                             2007 rcl.d -> rc.d/rcl.d
lrwxrwxrwx
            1 root root
                                10 Nov
                                         7
                                             2007 rc2.d -> rc.d/rc2.d
lrwxrwxrwx
            1 root root
            1 root root
                                10 Nov
                                             2007 rc3.d -> rc.d/rc3.d
lrwxrwxrwx
lrwxrwxrwx
            1 root root
                                10 Nov
                                         7
                                             2007 rc4.d -> rc.d/rc4.d
lrwxrwxrwx
            1 root root
                                10 Nov
                                         7
                                             2007 rc5.d -> rc.d/rc5.d
lrwxrwxrwx
            1 root root
                                10 Nov
                                         7
                                            2007 rc6.d -> rc.d/rc6.d
drwxr-xr-x 10 root root
                              4096 Nov
                                         7
                                            2007 rc.d
                                         7
lrwxrwxrwx
            1 root root
                                13 Nov
                                            2007 rc.local -> rc.d/rc
            1 root root
                                15 Nov
                                         7
                                            2007 rc.sysinit -> rc.d/
lrwxrwxrwx
                              4096 Jul 10
            2 root root
                                            2007 readahead.d
drwxr-xr-x
            1 root root
                               435 May
                                        11 15:17 reader.conf
-rw-r--r--
drwxr-xr-x 2 root root
                              4096 Jul 10
                                            2007 reader.conf.d
- rw-r--r--
            1 root root
                                54 Aug 15
                                            2007 redhat-release
                                70 Feb
                                         8 08:57 resolv.conf
- rw-r--r--
            2 root root
                                11 Jul 10
                                            2007 rmt -> ../sbin/rmt
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root
                                31 Jul 10
                                            2007 rndc.key -> /var/na
lrwxrwxrwx
            1 root named
- rw - r - - r - -
                              1615 Aug 30
                                            2001 rpc
            1 root root
                              4096 Nov 23 14:15 rpm
           2 root root
drwxr-xr-x
                                                                      [2]
                                            2006 reparehot conf
                               7041
                                    Oct
(Fig. 01: Linux file colors)
```

```
1 unixguy
brw-r--r--
                                       64
                                          Jan 27 05:52 block
                          staff
                                 64
                                     255
crw-r--r--
                 unixquy
                          staff
                                 64,
                                          Jan 26
                                                  13:57
                                                        character
                                     290 Jan 26 14:08
               1 unixguy staff
- rw - r - - r - -
                 unixquy staff
                                  331836
                                          Jan 26 14:06
 rw - r - - r - -
                                       48
               2
                 unixguy staff
                                          Jan 26
                                                  11:28
drwxrwx--x
                 unixguy
                                       29
                                          Jan 26
                                                 14:03 executable
                 unixquv staff
                                          Jan 26
                                                 11:50 fifo
prw-r--r--
                                        0
                                          Jan 26 11:44 link ->
lrwxrwxrwx
                 unixguy staff
- rw- rw- - - -
                 unixguy staff
                                     217 Jan 26 14:08 regularfile
```

 $(Fig.\ 02: Understanding\ Linux\ /\ UNIX\ file\ colors\ code\ [\ image\ credit\ wikipedia]\)$

How do I find out owner / group name for a file?

```
Type the Is -I command at a shell prompt:
```

```
$ ls -l filename
```

Sample output:

```
-rw-r--r-- 1 vivek admin 2558 Jan 8 07:41 filename
```

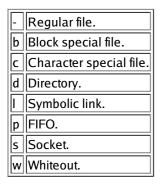
Where,

• -rw-r--r-- : <u>file mode</u> [4]

- 1 number of links
- vivek Owner name (if user name is not a known user, the numeric user id displayed)
- admin Group name (if group name is not a known group, the numeric group id displayed)
- 2558 number of bytes in the file (file size)
- Jan 8 07:41 abbreviated month, day-of-month file was last modified, hour file last modified, minute file last modified
- filename File name / pathname

Is -I file mode (permissions)

Quoting from the unix Is command man page - the file mode printed under the -I option consists of the entry type and the permissions. The entry type character describes the type of file, as follows:



The next three fields are three characters each: owner permissions, group permissions, and other permissions. Each field has three character positions:

- 1. If r, the file is readable; if -, it is not readable.
- 2. If w, the file is writable; if -, it is not writable.
- 3. The first of the following that applies:
 - **S**: If in the owner permissions, the file is not executable and set-user-ID mode is set. If in the group permissions, the file is not executable and set-group-ID mode is set.
 - **s**: If in the owner permissions, the file is executable and set-user-ID mode is set. If in the group permissions, the file is executable and set group-ID mode is set.
 - x: The file is executable or the directory is searchable.
 - -: The file is neither readable, writable, executable, nor set-user-ID nor set-group-ID mode, nor sticky.
- 4. These next two apply only to the third character in the last group (other permissions).
 - \circ T: The sticky bit is set (mode 1000), but not execute or search permission.
 - t: The sticky bit is set (mode 1000), and is search able or executable.

See Is command man page for more information:

\$ man ls

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- [3] Image: http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/wp-content/uploads/2008/05/linux-file-permissions-ls-color1.png
- [4] file mode: #Ismode

How do I find out owner / group name for a file?

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