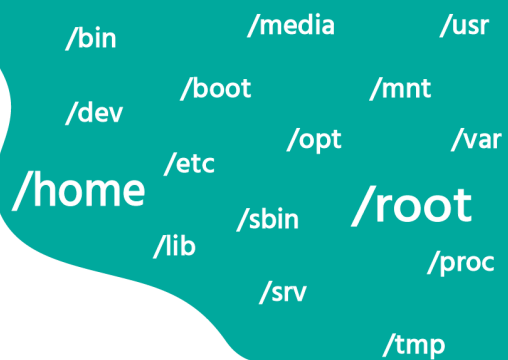


Navigating Basic Command Syntax



Arguments

command [options...] [arguments...]

An argument can be used to specify something for the command to act upon. The `ls` command can be given the name of a directory as an argument, and it will list the contents of that directory. In the next example, the `Documents` directory will be used as an argument:

```
sysadmin@localhost:~$ ls Documents
School      alpha-second.txt  food.txt          linux.txt         os.csv
Work        alpha-third.txt   hello.sh          longfile.txt      people.csv
adjectives.txt alpha.txt         hidden.txt        newhome.txt       profile.txt
alpha-first.txt animals.txt        letters.txt       numbers.txt       red.txt
```

The resulting output is a list of files contained with the `Documents` directory.

Because Linux is open source, there are some interesting secrets that have been added by developers. For example, the `aptitude` command is a package management tool available on some Linux distributions. This command will accept `moo` as an argument:

```
sysadmin@localhost:~$ aptitude moo
There are no Easter Eggs in this program.
```

There is more to this trick than meets the eye, keep reading!

Linux is Open Source

Linux is developed by a
community, you view and
contribute to the source code!

