<https://btholt.github.io/complete-intro-to-linux-and-the-cli/>

**Linux** is considered a **Unix-like** operating system which basically means that Linux derives heavy inspiration from Unix without actually conforming to be a full Unix operating system. **macOS** and **FreeBSD** would be two more examples of a Unix-like operating system.

**Why Linux?**

1. First, it's free. Anyone can use Linux to do anything without paying anyone a dime. This is useful for college students who don't have any money but it's also critical for large businesses running thousands or tens-of-thousands of servers. It can save them millions of dollars to not have to pay for an operating system.
2. It's very well maintained. Because Linux is such a popular operating system, it has a lot of eyes on it. Engineers from all over the world and all over the industry are constantly contributing fixes and new features to Linux, both on their own free time and during the course of their jobs.
3. It runs just about anywhere. Linux not only runs on x86 (the Intel / AMD processor architecture your computer is likely using) but it runs on Internet-of-Things devices, phones, fridges, cars, etc. If it has a processor in it, chances are you can get Linux running on it already.
4. Most of the the things you need already exist for it. Linux already has many of the tools one would need to run servers, devices, media, etc. all on it already, meaning you wouldn't need to create it. Linux has a rich ecosystem of programs available that are also likely free.
5. The knowledgebase for Linux is enormous. Having a problem? Chances are someone else already had the same problem and you can find the solution on StackOverflow or someone's blog. Because the knowledgebase is so large, it's really easy to hire someone with deep knowledge of Linux and for you it's profitable to learn Linux because so many jobs demand the skillset.

**CLI**

Known as command line interface. Also often called REPL (Read Evaluate Print Loop). It’s basically writing one line of code at a time.

While the terms CLI and shell are often used interchangeably, they refer to slightly different things. The CLI is the overall text-based interface, while the shell is a specific program that provides that interface. (In other words, Shell is the program and cli is the console when we run the program)

Bash (bourne again shell) is the most popular shell. There are others like zsh (z shell) which is used for mac, Terminal/powershell/cmd for windows etc.

**Commands:**

* **Pwd:** present working directory.
* **ls:** list of