

Special File Permissions

Objectives:

At the end of this episode, I will be able to:

1. View and modify UNIX-style permissions from the terminal.
2. View and modify macOS ACL permissions from the terminal.
3. Describe the metadata and the AppleDouble metadata file structure.

Additional resources used during the episode can be obtained using the download link on the overview episode.

- List permissions

- `ls -l <directory>`

- Modifying Permissions

- Modify permissions: `chmod <permissions> <directory>`

- Example #1

- `chmod g+w ./file.txt`
- Adds write permissions to the group

- Example #2

- `chmod go-r ./file.txt`
- Removes read permissions from group and other

- Example #3

- `chmod -R go+r ./tmp`
- Adds read access for group and other for `./tmp` and all files/folders within it
- Recursive

- Example #4

- `chmod u=rwx,go=rx ./script.sh`
- Grants read/write/execute permissions to the file owner
- Grants read/execute permissions to the group and everyone else

- Example #5

- `chmod +r ./file.txt`
- Grants read permissions to everyone for the file

- Changing the owner/group

- `chown <owner>:<group> file.txt`
- `chown donpezet:admin secret.txt`
- To modify a folder and all child objects, use `-R`
- `chown -R donpezet:staff /Users/donpezet/Music`

- Access Control Lists

- View extended permissions (ACLs)

- `ls -le`

- Add permissions

- `chmod +a "username allow read,write" file.txt`

- Remove permissions

- `chmod -a "username allow read,write" file.txt`

- File Metadata

- Additional information about a file
- Some file formats can store it internally
 - PDF
 - MP3
 - MP4
 - PNG
 - GIF
- Apple can store the metadata externally also
- Spotlight searches are able to find files based on metadata
- Use *Get Info* on a file to view its metadata
- For files stored on a Mac OS Extended Volume the metadata is stored in extended file attributes
- Use `ls -l@` in the terminal to view them

- AppleDouble Metadata

- For files stored on FAT/ExFAT Volumes, the metadata is stored in a separate file.
- Separate file is referred to as AppleDouble Metadata
- Example

Original File Name Metadata File Name

File1.txt ._File1.txt

Instruccions.pdf ._Instructions.pdf