

Command Line And Paths

Not Completed

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What You Will Learn

- Graphical user interface (GUI)
- Command Line
- Relative & Absolute path



Useful Resources

- [Tutorial on the Command Line](#)
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The Command Line

Before understanding the Command Line's goal (Or Command Prompt, or Terminal), we need to talk about GUI.

What Is A GUI?

GUI or graphical user interface is a system of interactive visual components for computer software.

A GUI uses windows, icons, and menus to carry out commands, such as opening, deleting, and moving files. Although a GUI operating system is navigated using a mouse and a keyboard.

For example, if you want to open a GUI system program, you would move the mouse pointer to the program's icon and double-click it.

What Is A Command-Line?

A window, usually called the **command line** or **command-line interface**, is a text-based application for viewing, handling, and manipulating files on your computer.

Using a command line, you can perform almost all the same tasks with a GUI. However, many tasks can be completed quicker and can be easier to automate and do remotely.

Cheatsheets

- For MAC Users : Follow This [Tutorial](#)
- For WINDOWS Users : Follow This [Tutorial](#) And This [Tutorial](#)
- For LINUX Users : Follow This [Tutorial](#)

Some More Useful Commands:

- Create a new empty file

```
Windows
C:\Users\John> copy NUL test.txt

OR

C:\Users\John> type NUL > test.txt
```

- Launching an editor from the Command Line

Visual Studio code

```
Windows & Linux
Open the whole folder in VS.
C:\Users\John> code .

Open a file in VS
C:\Users\John> code hello.html
```



For Mac Users

- According to the documentation, “Users on macOS must first run a command (Shell Command: Install ‘code’ command in PATH) to add VS Code executable to the PATH environment variable.”
- Therefore, follow this [tutorial](#)

Sublime Text

Windows, Mac & Linux

Follow this [tutorial](#)

- Open the file explorer

```
Windows:
C:\Users\John>start .

Mac & Linux:
C:\Users\John>open .
```

- Open a specific folder

```
Windows:
C:\Users\John>cd Documents\Game
C:\Users\John\Documents\Game> start .

Mac & Linux:
C:\Users\John>cd Documents\Game
C:\Users\John\Documents\Game> open .
```

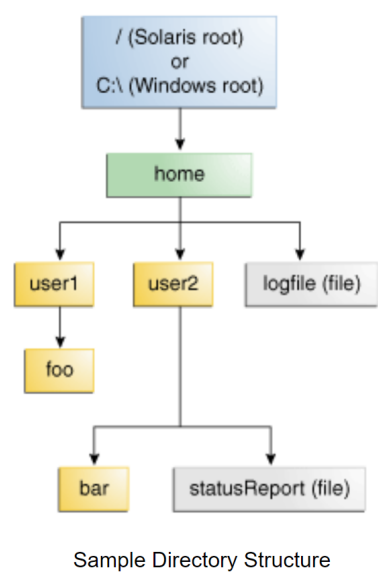
Go several directories up.

```
C:\Users\John\Documents\Games\Mario>cd ../../..
You get to C:\Users\John\Documents>

C:\Users\John\Documents\Games\Mario>cd ../../../../..
You get to: C:\Users\John>
```

Absolute And Relative Paths

What Is A Path?



Its path identifies a file through the file system. For example, the status report file in the previous figure is described by the following notation.

```
/home/user2/statusReport
```

Absolute Path

Absolute paths contain a complete URL, including a protocol, the website’s domain name, and possibly a specific file, subfolder, or page name. For example `https://www.facebook.com/`

```
<a href="https://www.facebook.com/">My Facebook</a>
```

Note: While your browser may let you omit the protocol, `https://`, you should always include the scheme (e.g. `http://` or `https://`) when coding absolute links to make sure they work for all visitors.

Relative Path

The relative path only includes the name of a specific file or page relative to the current path. For example: `cat.html`

```
<a href="/public/cat.html">My Cat</a>
```

In this example, you’re telling the browser to look in the current folder (**public**) containing the file you want the user taken to (**cat.html**).

Of course, if you just pasted `/public/cat.html` into a browser's search bar, it wouldn't take you where you wanted to go.

Therefore, the link's path is **relative to the current document being displayed by the browser**.

HTML Relative Paths

Some theory first

A relative file path points to a file relative to the current page.

`/images/picture.jpg`: the file path points to a file in the `images` folder located at the root of the current web.

`images/picture.jpg`: the file path points to a file in the `images` folder located in the current folder.

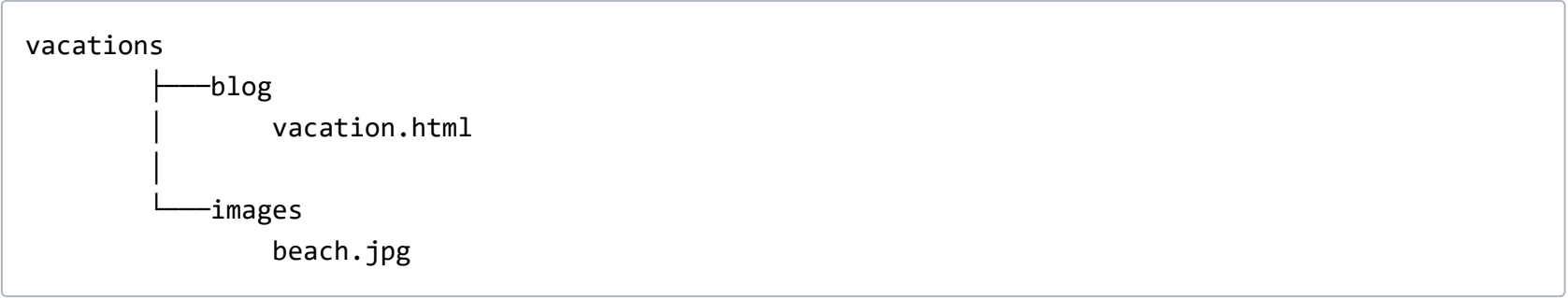
`../images/picture.jpg`: the file path points to a file in the `images` folder located in the folder one level above the current folder.

```

/   = Root directory
.   = This location
..  = Up a directory
./  = Current directory
../ = Parent of current directory
../../ = Two directories backwards
```

First Example

Let's understand it with an example; here is the tree of the folder.



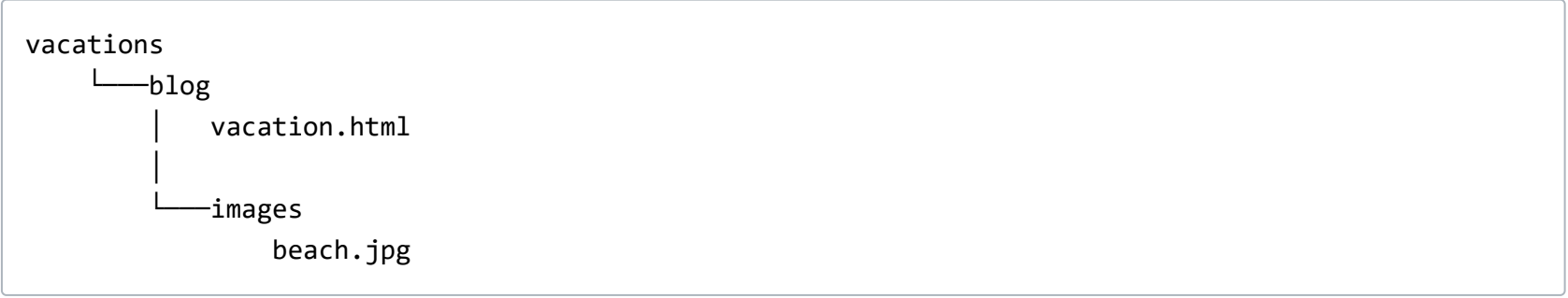
The directory `vacations` has 2 subfolders. Each subfolder has a file. We want to link the image file in the HTML file.

`vacation.html`

```

```

Second Example



Now the directory `images` is a subfolder of the `blog` directory.

`vacation.html`

```

OR

```

Third Example

```
vacations
|   beach.jpg
|
└── blog
    |   vacation.html
```

The image is now in the parent directory.

```

```

Fourth Example

```
vacations
|   └── blog
|       |   beach.jpg
|       |   vacation.html
```

vacation.html

```

or

```

Exercise 1



Using only the Command Line to create the structure of the main folder:

Create a new folder on your computer called movies. Inside, add an image icon that will represent your website.

Inside the main folder, create 2 folders: movie_website and movie_images. Add some images in the movie_images folder (images of films created by the same director).

Create an HTML page in the movie_website folder called movies_list. It displays the list of movies and their images. In the navbar, display the image icon of your website. At the end of the body, create an anchor, which links to the HTML file we will create below

Create another HTML file called director_details, that will display all the details of the director you chose. Create an anchor, which links to his/her Wikipedia.

In this exercise, add comments to your files everytime you use a relative or absolute path. And explain why this path is relevant

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Feedback

Tell us what you thought about the chapter: Command Line and paths