

## Very Basic Unix Command Summary

Command	Example	Description
ls	ls	Lists files in the current working directory
	ls -a	<i>Include directory entries whose names begin with a dot (.)</i> (from manpage)
	ls -al	<i>(The numeric digit "one".) Force output to be one entry per line.</i> (from manpage)  The text <code>-al</code> is actually shorthand for two arguments; you could instead enter: <code>ls -a -l</code>
pwd	pwd	Lists the absolute path of the current working directory
mkdir	mkdir temp	Creates a directory named <code>temp</code> in the current working directory
cd	cd temp	Changes current working directory to <code>temp/</code> (if it exists).
	cd ..	Changes current working directory to one directory back in the file tree (the parent directory)
	cd	Changes current working directory to the home directory of the user (for user <code>troy</code> this will be <code>/home/troy</code> ).
	cd -	Changes back to the previous working directory
	cd /	Changes current working directory to the root directory
rmdir	rmdir temp	Removes directory <code>temp/</code> only when <code>temp/</code> is empty
touch	touch test	Changes the timestamp (i.e., date and time ) of the file <code>test</code> to the current date and time. If the file does not exist, it creates a new, empty file with the given name.
cp	cp test temp/	Copies the file <code>test</code> into directory <code>temp/</code>
	cp test test1	Copies the file <code>test</code> into another, new file named <code>test1</code>

rm	rm test1	Removes the file test1
	rm test*	Removes all files with a name starting with the word test. (The asterisk * is used to denote <i>any</i> string: use with caution with the rm command.)
	rm -r temp	Removes directory temp/ and its contents, recursively
mv	mv temp2 temp3	Moves or renames files and directories. In this case, temp2 is moved to temp3.
more	more temp2	<p>Displays the contents of file temp2, one page at-a-time. Press space to navigate to the next page/screen.</p> <p>Try the more command with the file .profile (in the directory /home/troy). You can either cd into /home/troy and then display the contents of the file, or you can use the absolute path of the file: /home/troy/.profile</p>
man	man ls	Online manual help about any command, in this case about ls. To advance to the next screen of the manual, press the Space bar; to go back, press b; to exit and return to the command prompt, press q.
apt-get	<pre>apt-get install cowsay</pre> <pre>apt-get remove cowsay</pre>	Install/remove the cowsay package. A Google search for “debian packages” will yield many other packages, in the unlikely event that a configurable talking cow is not what you need.
pico nano vi	<p>Three different editors to edit your files. Simply type the name of the editor followed by the name of the file you want to edit (e.g. pico test.txt). If the named file does not exist, it will be created when you save it with the editor. Editors pico and nano are more user-friendly while vi offers advanced features. Many other editors exist that can be installed using apt-get (see above).</p>	