Quality-of-Life & Modern CLI Helpers (Optional)

Linux Commands Course - Section 20

Quick References — tldr

tldr provides concise, example-driven help pages for common commands. Install it: sudo apt install tldr pip install tldr Usage: tldr tar tldr grep Example output for tldr tar: tar — Archiving utility Examples: Create a gzip-compressed archive: tar -czvf archive.tar.gz directory/ - Extract an archive: tar -xzvf archive.tar.gz Fast, clean, and easy to read — great for quick reminders.

Faster File Searching — fd

fd is a simple, fast, user-friendly alternative to find.
Install (Debian/Ubuntu):

sudo apt install fd-find

Basic usage:

fd main
fd -e txt -e md

• Ignores .gitignore-excluded files by default
• Colorful output
• Much faster than find for interactive use

You might need to symlink for convenience:

ln -s \$(which fdfind) ~/.local/bin/fd

Faster Grep - ripgrep (rg)



Better Cat - bat

bat enhances cat with syntax highlighting, line numbers, and paging.

Install:

sudo apt install bat

Usage:

bat script.sh bat /etc/passwd

You can also use it like cat in pipelines:

bat --plain file.txt | grep keyword

Alias it for convenience:

alias cat='batcat'

Monitoring Tools — btop, nload, iftop



A colorful and interactive resource monitor.

sudo apt install btop
btop

Features:

- CPU, memory, disk, and network usage graphs
- Process viewer with search and sorting
- Mouse support and theme customization

mload

Real-time network bandwidth monitor (per interface).

sudo apt install nload
nload

Displays incoming and outgoing traffic separately.

iftop

Interactive bandwidth usage by connection.

sudo apt install iftop
sudo iftop

Shows which hosts are consuming bandwidth — great for network debugging.

Comparisons and Recommendations

Classic Tool	Modern Alternative	Benefit
man	tldr	Quick, example-focused help
find	fd	Faster, simpler syntax
grep	ripgrep (rg)	Fast recursive search with colors
cat	bat	Pretty printing and highlighting
top	btop	Graphical monitoring
iftop	(modern already)	Network inspection
nload	(modern already)	Lightweight bandwidth view

Bonus Tips

You can create an **alias group** for modern replacements:

```
alias cat='batcat'
alias grep='rg'
alias find='fd'
alias top='btop'
```

Store them in ~/.bashrc to persist.

Recap

- tldr short and friendly command reference
 fd faster file search
 ripgrep (rg) next-gen grep
 bat colorful file viewer
 btop, nload, iftop intuitive performance monitors

These tools make everyday terminal work faster, clearer, and more enjoyable.

Congratulations!

You've completed the ${f Linux}$ ${f Commands}$ ${f Course}$ — from fundamentals to modern workflow tools.

Next: combine your skills to create your own shell utilities and automation scripts!