# Bash Command Tutorial 2

Now we'll learn how to manipulate files and directories.

"rm" means "remove." For example:

rm <file> - delete a file

rmdir <folder> - delete a directory (only works if it's empty)

rm -r <folder> - delete a non-empty directory and everything inside of it

Start by deleting the "practice" directory from the last exercise. Run this:

```
rmdir practice
```

And then run ls to check that it's gone.

The "touch" command is used to create new empty files. Run these:

```
touch apple.txt banana.txt
```

If you run ls again you should see this:

```
apple.txt  banana.txt
```

Now delete one, and then check that it's actually gone.

```
rm banana.txt
```

(Pro tip: Bash has a helpful autocomplete feature. You can type "rm b" and then hit Tab, and it'll automatically fill in rm banana.txt for you.)

The "echo" command lets you write text into a file. Run this:

```
echo "I like apples" > apple.txt
```

Then check the contents of the file with the "cat" command.

```
cat apple.txt
```

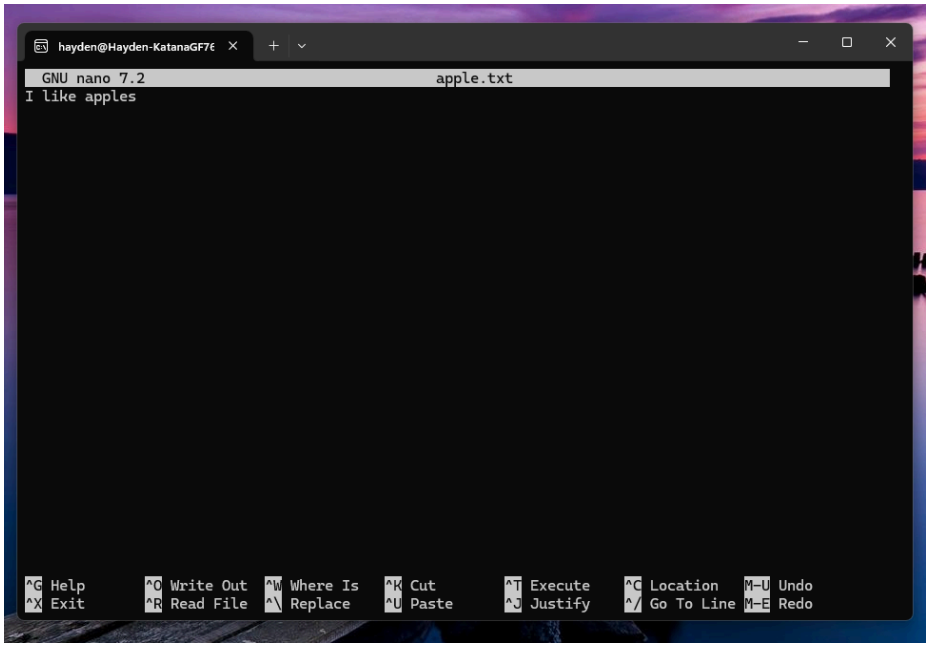
You should see I like apples.

Do you feel like a hacker yet? Buckle up, it only gets more exciting from here.

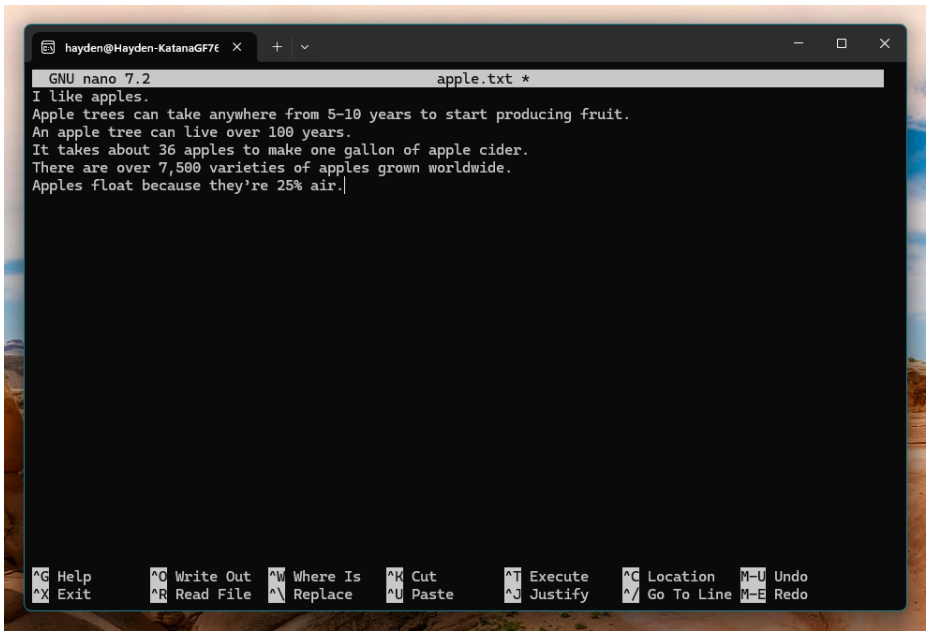
"nano" is a simple command-line text editor built into most Linux systems, including Ubuntu. Run this:

```
nano apple.txt
```

You'll be taken into a fullscreen editor. It should look like this:




At the bottom of the screen, you see a list of keyboard shortcuts. The ^ symbol means "hold Control." Write a few lines of whatever text you want.




Then press Ctrl+O to save the file, Enter to confirm, and Ctrl+X to exit. You'll be taken back to the terminal.

Now you can cat apple.txt and it should print the entire file. Cool, huh?

Now make another directory:

```
mkdir fruits
```

And some more text files:

```
touch cherry.txt kiwi.txt orange.txt
```

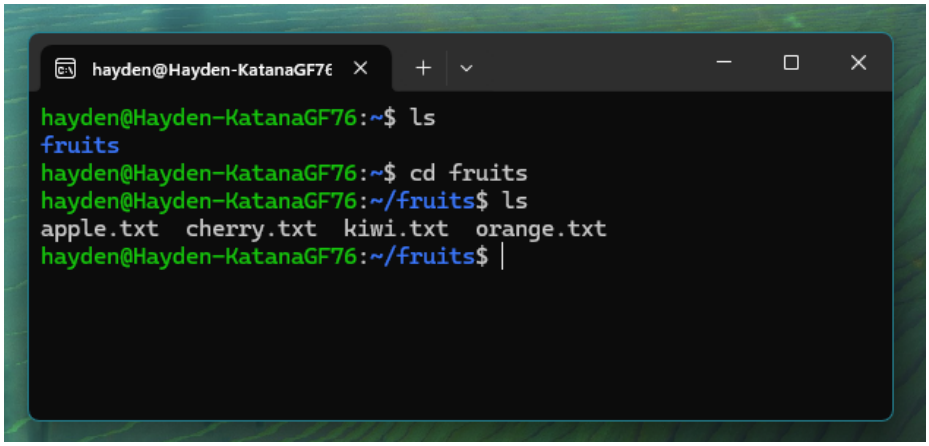
Move files into a directory with “mv”.

```
mv apple.txt fruits
```

You can automatically move ALL the text files into a directory like this:

```
mv *.txt fruits
```

If you check with ls you should only see the fruits directory. Then cd into fruits and ls again to check that all your files were successfully moved there.




Run cd .. to go back up a level. Now we’re back in the home directory.

Now it’s time to erase all your hard work. Run this:

```
rm -r fruits
```

You’ve successfully deleted the fruits directory and everything inside of it.

The -r stands for “recursive.” When you see a dash and a letter (like -r), you're passing a “flag” to the command. Flags modify how a command works.

Be careful with commands like rm -r. Linux gives you great power, and with that comes great responsibility. There is no “undo” button, so make sure you know what you’re doing before entering a command!