

## Top Linux Commands

**ls** - The most frequently used command in Linux to list directories

root@ubuntu:~# **ls**

**pwd** - Print working directory command in Linux

root@ubuntu:~# **pwd**

**cd** - Linux command to navigate through directories

root@ubuntu:~# **cd <directory path>**

**mkdir** - Command used to create directories in Linux

root@ubuntu:~# **mkdir <folder name>**

**mv** - Move or rename files in Linux

root@ubuntu:~# **mv <source> <destination>**

**cp** - Similar usage as mv but for copying files in Linux

root@ubuntu:~# **cp <source> <destination>**

**rm** - Delete files or directories

root@ubuntu:~# **rm <file name>**

**touch** - Create blank/empty files

root@ubuntu:~# **touch <file name>**

**ln** - Create symbolic links (shortcuts) to other files

root@ubuntu:~# **ln -s <source path> <link name>**

**clear** - Clear the terminal display

root@ubuntu:~# **clear**

**cat** - Display file contents on the terminal

root@ubuntu:~# **cat <file name>**

**echo** - Print any text that follows the command

root@ubuntu:~# **echo <Text to print on terminal>**

**less** - Linux command to display paged outputs in the terminal

root@ubuntu:~# **cat /boot/grub/grub.cfg | less**

**man** - Access manual pages for all Linux commands

root@ubuntu:~# **man <command name>**

**uname** - Linux command to get basic information about the OS

```
root@ubuntu:~# uname -a
```

**whoami** - Get the active username. It stands for "who am I?"

```
root@ubuntu:~# whoami
```

**tar** - Command to extract and compress files in linux

#Compress

```
root@ubuntu:~# tar -cvf <archive name> <files separated by space>
```

#Extract

```
root@ubuntu:~# tar -xvf <archive name>
```

**grep** - Search for a string within an output

```
root@ubuntu:~# <Any command with output> | grep "<string to find>"
```

**head** - Return the specified number of lines from the top

```
root@ubuntu:~# head <file name>
```

**tail** - Return the specified number of lines from the bottom

```
root@ubuntu:~# tail <file name>
```

**diff** - Find the difference between two files

```
root@ubuntu:~# diff <file 1> <file 2>
```

**cmp** - Allows you to check if two files are identical

```
root@ubuntu:~# cmp <file 1> <file 2>
```

**comm** - Combines the functionality of diff and cmp

```
root@ubuntu:~# comm <file 1> <file2>
```

**sort** - Linux command to sort the content of a file while outputting

```
root@ubuntu:~# sort <filename>
```

**export** - Export environment variables in Linux

```
root@ubuntu:~# export <variable name>=<value>
```

**zip** - Zip files in Linux

```
root@ubuntu:~# zip <archive name> <file names separated by space>
```

**unzip** - Unzip files in Linux

```
root@ubuntu:~# unzip <archive name>
```

**ssh** - Secure Shell command in Linux

root@ubuntu:~ **ssh username@remote-server**

**service** - Linux command to start and stop services

root@ubuntu:~ **service ssh status**

root@ubuntu:~ **service ssh stop**

root@ubuntu:~ **service ssh start**

**ps** - Display active processes

root@ubuntu:~ **ps**

**kill** and **killall** - Kill active processes by process ID or name

root@ubuntu:~ **kill <process ID>**

root@ubuntu:~ **killall <process name>**

**df** - Display disk filesystem information

root@ubuntu:~ **df -h**

**mount** - Mount file systems in Linux

root@ubuntu:~ **mount /dev/cdrom /mnt**

**chmod** - Command to change file permissions

root@ubuntu:~ **chmod <parameter> filename**

**chown** - Command for granting ownership of files or folders

root@ubuntu:~ **chown <parameter> filename**

**ifconfig** - Display network interfaces and IP addresses

root@ubuntu:~ **ifconfig**

**traceroute** - Trace all the network hops to reach the destination

root@ubuntu:~ **traceroute <destination address>**

**wget** - Direct download files from the internet

root@ubuntu:~ **wget <link to file>**

**apt, pacman, yum, rpm** - Package managers depending on the distribution

root@ubuntu:~ **apt install <package name>**

root@ubuntu:~ **pacman -S <package name>**

root@ubuntu:~ **yum install <package name>**

**sudo** - Command to escalate privileges in Linux

non-root-user@ubuntu:~# **sudo <command you want to run>**

**cal** - View a command-line calendar

```
root@ubuntu:~# cal
```

```
root@ubuntu:~# cal April 2024
```

**alias** - Create custom shortcuts for your regularly used commands

```
root@ubuntu:~# alias ls="ls -l"
```

OR

```
root@ubuntu:~# alias rmd="rm -r"
```

**dd** - Majorly used for creating bootable USB sticks

```
root@ubuntu:~# dd if=/dev/sdb of=/dev/sda
```

**whereis** - Locate the binary, source, and manual pages for a command

```
root@ubuntu:~# whereis sudo
```

**whatis** - Find what a command is used for

```
root@ubuntu:~# whatis sudo
```

**top** - View active processes live with their system usage

```
root@ubuntu:~# top -o MEM
```

**useradd** and **usermod** - Add a new user or change existing user data

```
root@ubuntu:~# useradd JournalDev -d /home/JD
```

```
root@ubuntu:~# usermod JournalDev -a -G sudo, audio, mysql
```

**passwd** - Create or update passwords for existing users

```
root@ubuntu:~# passwd
```

```
root@ubuntu:~# passwd username
```