




# Linux Command Line Cheat Sheet (v0.3)

## File Management

**cd** change directory  
**cp** copy files and directories  
    **-r** recursive  
    **-p** preserve attributes  
 **ln** make links between files  
    **-s** symbolic link  
**ls** list directory contents  
    **-l** more info  
    **-a** all files  
    **-h** human readable  
**mkdir** make directories  
**mv** move (rename) files  
**pwd** show current/working directory  
**rm** remove files or directories  
    **-r** recursive  
    **-f** force  
**rmdir** remove empty directories

## File Viewing

**cat** show file content  
**head** output the first part of files  
    **-n** specify number of lines to show  
 **less** show scrollable output  
**more** show output in pages  
 **od** dump file in octal format  
**tail** output the last part of files  
    **-f** keep showing new added lines

**-n** specify number of lines to show  
**xxd** make a hexdump

## File Editing

**nano** simple text editor  
    **-c** show cursor position  
    **-w** disable line wrapping  
**vi** text editor  
    **i** switch to insert mode  
    **esc** switch to command mode  
    **:w** save file  
    **:q** quit

## File Properties

**chattr** change file attributes  
**chgrp** change group ownership  
    **-R** recursive  
**chmod** change file access permissions  
    **-R** recursive  
**chown** change file owner and group  
    **-R** recursive  
**du** estimate file size  
    **-s** summarize  
    **-h** human readable  
**file** determine file type  
**lsattr** list file attributes  
**stat** display file or filesystem status  
**touch** change file timestamps

## Finding Files

**find** search for files  
    **find <path> -name <filename>**  
**grep** find files containing text pattern  
    **grep <pattern> files**  
**locate** search for files in Locate database  
**updatedb** update Locate database

## File Manipulation

**comm** compare sorted files line by line  
**cmp** compare files byte by byte  
**cut** select columns from files  
    **-f** column number  
    **-d** specify column delimiter  
**diff** compare files line by line  
**fold** wrap lines to specified width  
**grep** filter lines matching a pattern  
**md5sum** generate / check MD5 checksums  
**nl** number lines  
**sort** sort lines  
**strings** show printable characters  
**tee** write to standard output and file  
    **-a** append  
**tr** translate or delete characters  
**uniq** remove duplicate successive lines  
**wc** count lines, words, and bytes  
    **-l** count just lines

## File Packaging and Compressing

<b>bzip2</b>	compress files
<b>bunzip2</b>	uncompress bzipipped files
<b>gzip</b>	(un)compress files
<b>gunzip</b>	uncompress gzipped files
<b>tar</b>	pack or unpack files in tar archive
<b>-x</b>	extract from archive
<b>-t</b>	list contents of archive
<b>-c</b>	create archive
<b>-f</b>	specify archive filename
<b>-z</b>	perform gzip compression
<b>-j</b>	perform bzip2 compression
<b>unzip</b>	unpack and uncompress zip files
<b>zip</b>	package and compress files
<b>-r</b>	recursive


## File System Management

<b>df</b>	report filesystem disk space usage
<b>-h</b>	human readable
<b>fsck</b>	check and repair a file system
<b>lsuf</b>	list open files
<b>-c</b>	select matching processes
<b>-i</b>	show open network files
<b>mkfs</b>	create a file system (i.e. format)
<b>mount</b>	mount a file system
<b>mount &lt;device&gt; &lt;mount point&gt;</b>	
<b>stat</b>	display file or filesystem status
<b>-f</b>	show file system status
<b>sync</b>	flush file system buffers
<b>umount</b>	unmount a file system

## System Information

<b>date</b>	print or set system date and time
<b>free</b>	show memory information
<b>hostname</b>	show or set the system's name
<b>last</b>	show log of last logged in users
<b>lsuf</b>	list open files
<b>lsufci</b>	list all PCI devices
<b>lsusb</b>	list all USB devices
<b>ps</b>	show current processes
<b>-e/-A</b>	<b>all processes</b>
<b>psufree</b>	display a tree of processes
<b>time</b>	summarize resource usage
<b>top</b>	display real-time list of processes
<b>q</b>	quit
<b>uname</b>	print system information
<b>-a</b>	all information
<b>uptime</b>	show uptime and system load
<b>w</b>	show users and what they run
<b>which</b>	locate a command on the PATH
<b>who</b>	show who is logged in

## Process Management

<b>at</b>	queue jobs for later execution
<b>bg</b>	resume process in the background
<b>ctrl-c</b>	interrupt (stop) running process
<b>ctrl-z</b>	suspend running process
<b>fg</b>	bring process to foreground
<b>kill</b>	terminate a process
<b>nice</b>	change process priority
<b>ps</b>	show current processes
<b>-e/-A</b>	show all processes
<b>renice</b>	change priority of running process
<b>sleep</b>	delay a process 
<b>sudo</b>	run command as different user
<b>top</b>	display real-time list of processes
<b>q</b>	quit
<b>w</b>	show users and what they run

## Getting Help

<b>apropos</b>	search manual pages
<b>info</b>	read detailed documentation
<b>man</b>	view manual pages
<b>whatis</b>	view command descriptions

## Networking

**dig** perform DNS lookup  
    **dig** @<server> <name> <type>  
**host** perform DNS lookup  
    **-t** query type  
**ifconfig** configure a network interface  
    **netmask** specify subnet mask  
    **up/down** enable or disable interface  
**netcat** read/write over a network  
    **-l** listening mode  
**netstat** print network connections  
    **-l** show listening sockets  
    **-p** show PID and program name  
    **-t** show TCP  
    **-u** show UDP  
**nmap** network exploration scanner  
**ping** send ICMP echo requests  
**route** print / manipulate IP routing table  
**scp** secure copy (remote file copy)  
    **scp** <user1>@<host1>:file1 \  
        <user2>@<host2>:<file2>  
    **-r** recursive  
**ssh** SSH client (remote login)  
    **ssh** <user>@<host>  
**tcpdump** dump network traffic  
    **-i** specify network interface  
**telnet** communicate over TCP  
    **telnet** <host> <port>  
**traceroute** print network route  
**wget** non-interactive downloader  
    **wget** <url>  
**whois** query whois database

## I/O Redirection

**|** pipe output of cmd 1 to cmd 2  
    <command1> | <command2>  
**<** take input from file  
    <command> < <file>  
**>** redirect output to file  
    <command> > <file>  
**>>** append output to file  
    <command> >> <file>  
**2>** redirect error stream to file  
    <command> 2> <file>  
**&>** redirect output and error stream  
    <command> &> <file>  
**2>&1** redirect error stream to output  
    <command> &> <file>

## Shell Wildcards

**\*** wildcard for zero or more chars  
**?** wildcard for zero or one char  
**[abc]** exactly one of the listed chars  
**[a-z]** exactly one char from the range  
**[!abc]** any char that is not listed  
**[!a-z]** any char not in the range  
**{go,no}** exactly one of the words

## Shortcuts

**<up>** scroll through command history  
**<down>** " " " "  
**<tab>** file or command completion  
**~** home directory  
**cd -** cd to last visited directory  
**\** command continues on next line

**&** execute command in background  
    <command> &  
**alias** create an alias for a command  
    alias ls='ls --color=auto'  
**unalias** remove a command alias  
**ctrl-R** search in command history  
**history** list executed commands

## Special keys

ctrl + D End-Of-File (ends standard input)  
ctrl + U erase complete line  
ctrl + W erase last typed word

## Misc

**cal** display a calendar  
**clear** clear terminal  
**lpq** show printer queue  
**lpr** print files  
**lprm** cancel print job  
**mail** send and receive mail  
    **-s** specify mail subject  
**reset** re-initialize terminal  
**watch** periodically execute program  
**xargs** build complex command lines

## Fun and Games

**banner** show large banner  
**fortune** print random adage

## System Administration

**passwd** change user password  
**su** change user ID or become root  
**useradd** create new user  
**shutdown** bring the system down  
    **-r** reboot

## Regular Expressions

**.** any single character  
**[ ]** one given characters  
    **[aeiou]** matches one vowel  
    **[a-m]** matches one of a,b,c,...,m  
**[ ^ ]** any single char except given  
    **[^0-9]** matches one non-numeric char  
**^** start of the line  
**\$** end of the line  
**\*** 0 or more times  
**+** 1 or more times  
**?** 0 or 1 times  
**{x,y}** at least x and max y times  
**( )** groups multiple expressions  
    **([ ] [ ] [ ] )+**  
**|** or  
    **(me|you)** matches 'me' or 'you'  
**( )** marks an expression  
**\n** matches n-th marked expression  
    **([ao])x\1** matches 'axa' and 'oxo', not 'axo'

## Package Management

**apt-get** Debian package management

**apt-get install** <package>  
**apt-get remove** <package>  
**rpm** RedHat package management  
    **rpm -i** <package>  
    **rpm -e** <package>

## Scripting

**perl** execute Perl program  
    **-e** execute perl oneliner  
    **-n** execute for each line in given text file  
    **-p** like -n, but prints resulting lines



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