



Wikit – A Command Line Tool to Search Wikipedia on Linux

Aaron Kili | Last Updated: July 13, 2023 | Read Time: 1 min | [Linux Commands](#) | [6 Comments](#)

Wikit is a free and open-source command-line program for easily viewing Wikipedia summaries of search queries on the Linux command line; it is built using [Nodejs](#).

The verb Wikit (derived from “wikipedia it”) means looking up something on wikipedia.org, the popular and remarkable open-source encyclopedia on the Internet.

[You might also like: [Googler – Do Google Search from Linux Terminal](#)]

To install Wikit on Linux systems, you must have nodejs and npm installed, if not install it using your default package manager as shown.

```
$ sudo apt install nodejs      #Debian/Ubuntu
$ sudo yum install nodejs npm  #RHEL/CentOS
$ sudo dnf install nodejs npm  #Fedora 22+
```

Installing nodejs and npm from the default repositories will give you the little older version. Therefore, read our article to get a more recent version of [nodejs and npm in Linux](#).

After installing the necessary dependencies, run the following command to install wikit in Linux (the `-g` flag tells npm to install wikit globally).

```
$ sudo npm install wikit -g
```

Once Wikiti is installed on your system, you can run it using the following syntax.

```
$ wikiti Linux
```

```
aaronkilik@tecmint ~ $ wikiti Linux
Linux (pronounced /'lɪnəks/ LIN-əks or, less frequently, /'laɪnəks/ LYN-əks) is a
Unix-like computer operating system assembled under the model of free and open-source
software development and distribution. The defining component of Linux is the Linux
kernel, an operating system kernel first released on September 17, 1991 by Linus
Torvalds. The Free Software Foundation uses the name GNU/Linux to describe the operating
system, which has led to some controversy. Linux was originally developed for personal
computers based on the Intel x86 architecture, but has since been ported to more
platforms than any other operating system. Because of the dominance of the Linux
kernel-based Android OS on smartphones, Linux has the largest installed base of all
general-purpose operating systems. Linux is also the leading operating system on
servers and other big iron systems such as mainframe computers, and is used on 99.6%
of the TOP500 supercomputers. It is used by around 2.3% of desktop computers. The
Chromebook, which runs the Linux kernel-based ChromeOS, dominates the US K-12 education
market and represents nearly 20% of the sub-$300 notebook sales in the US. Linux
also runs on embedded systems - devices whose operating system is typically built
into the firmware and is highly tailored to the system. This includes TiVo and similar
DVR devices, network routers, facility automation controls, televisions, video game
consoles and smartwatches. Many smartphones and tablet computers run Android and
other Linux derivatives. The development of Linux is one of the most prominent examples
of free and open-source software collaboration. The underlying source code may be
used, modified and distributed—commercially or non-commercially—by anyone under
the terms of its respective licenses, such as the GNU General Public License. Typically,
Linux is packaged in a form known as a Linux distribution (or distro for short) for
both desktop and server use. Some of the most popular and mainstream Linux distributions
are Arch Linux, CentOS, Debian, Fedora, Gentoo Linux, Linux Mint, Mageia, openSUSE
and Ubuntu, together with commercial distributions such as Red Hat Enterprise Linux
and SUSE Linux Enterprise Server. Distributions include the Linux kernel, supporting
utilities and libraries, many of which are provided by the GNU Project, and usually
a large amount of application software to fulfil the distribution's intended use.
Desktop Linux distributions include a windowing system, such as X11, Mir or a Wayland
implementation, and an accompanying desktop environment such as GNOME or the KDE
Software Compilation; some distributions may also include a less resource-intensive
desktop, such as LXDE or Xfce. Distributions intended to run on servers may omit
all graphical environments from the standard install, and instead include other software
to set up and operate a solution stack such as LAMP. Because Linux is freely redistributable,
anyone may create a distribution for any intended use.
aaronkilik@tecmint ~ $
```

Wikipedia Command Line View

The output shown is the paragraphs of the Wikipedia article before the table of contents and the line length is neatly wrapped based on your terminal's window size, with a max of about 80 characters.

If you are running wikiti on a desktop computer with a web browser installed, you can open the full Wikipedia article in a browser using the `-b` flag as below.

```
$ wikiti linux -b
```

To define the line wrap length to number (minimum 15), use the `-l` option as shown.

```
$ wikiti linux --line 90
```

```
[root@TecMint:~]#wikiti linux --line 90
Linux ( or ) is a family of open-source Unix-like operating systems based on the Linux kernel,
an operating system kernel first released on September 17, 1991, by Linus Torvalds. Linux
is typically packaged as a Linux distribution, which includes the kernel and supporting system
software and libraries, many of which are provided by the GNU Project. Many Linux distributions
use the word "Linux" in their name, but the Free Software Foundation uses the name "GNU/Linux"
to emphasize the importance of GNU software, causing some controversy. Popular Linux distributions
include Debian, Fedora Linux, and Ubuntu, the latter of which itself consists of many different
distributions and modifications, including Lubuntu and Xubuntu. Commercial distributions include
Red Hat Enterprise Linux and SUSE Linux Enterprise. Desktop Linux distributions include a
windowing system such as X11 or Wayland, and a desktop environment such as GNOME or KDE Plasma.
Distributions intended for servers may omit graphics altogether, or include a solution stack
such as LAMP. Because Linux is freely redistributable, anyone may create a distribution for
any purpose. Linux was originally developed for personal computers based on the Intel x86
architecture, but has since been ported to more platforms than any other operating system.
Because of the dominance of the Linux-based Android on smartphones, Linux, including Android,
has the largest installed base of all general-purpose operating systems,. Although Linux is,,
used by only around 2.6 percent of desktop computers, the Chromebook, which runs the Linux
kernel-based ChromeOS, dominates the US K-12 education market and represents nearly 20 percent
of sub-$300 notebook sales in the US. Linux is the leading operating system on servers (over
96.4% of the top 1 million web servers' operating systems are Linux), leads other big iron
systems such as mainframe computers, and is used on all of the world's 500 fastest supercomputers
(since November 2017, having gradually displaced all competitors). Linux also runs on embedded
systems, i.e. devices whose operating system is typically built into the firmware and is highly
tailored to the system. This includes routers, automation controls, smart home devices, video
```

Searching Wikipedia on Linux Commandline

For more information, go to the [Wikiti Github repository](#).

Lastly, do check out these fancy command line-based tools for various tasks.

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Aaron Kili

Aaron Kili is a Linux and F.O.S.S enthusiast, an upcoming Linux SysAdmin, web developer, and currently a content creator for TecMint who loves working with computers and strongly believes in sharing knowledge.

Each tutorial at TecMint is created by a team of experienced Linux system administrators so that it meets our high-quality standards.

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perform a trial run with no changes made

```
tecmint@TecMint ~ $ rsync -av --dry-run --update testing/* tecmint@192.168.102:/home/tecmint/
tecmint@192.168.102's password:
sending incremental file list
do.awk
script.awk
second.awk

sent 126 bytes received 25 bytes 43.14 bytes/sec
total size is 479 speedup is 3.17 (DRY RUN)
tecmint@TecMint ~ $
```

skip newer files on the

Remote Server

Rsync - Sync New or Changed Files in Linux

How to Sync New and Changed Files Using 'rsync' Command

```
tecmint@tecmint ~/testing $ find . -type f \( -name "*.txt" -o -
name "*.sh" -o -name "*.c" \)
./emails.txt
./script-1.sh
./header.c
./examples.txt
./script.sh
./expenses.txt
```

Find Multiple Filenames (File Extensions) Using 'find' Command in Linux

How to Search Files by Name or Extension Using find Command



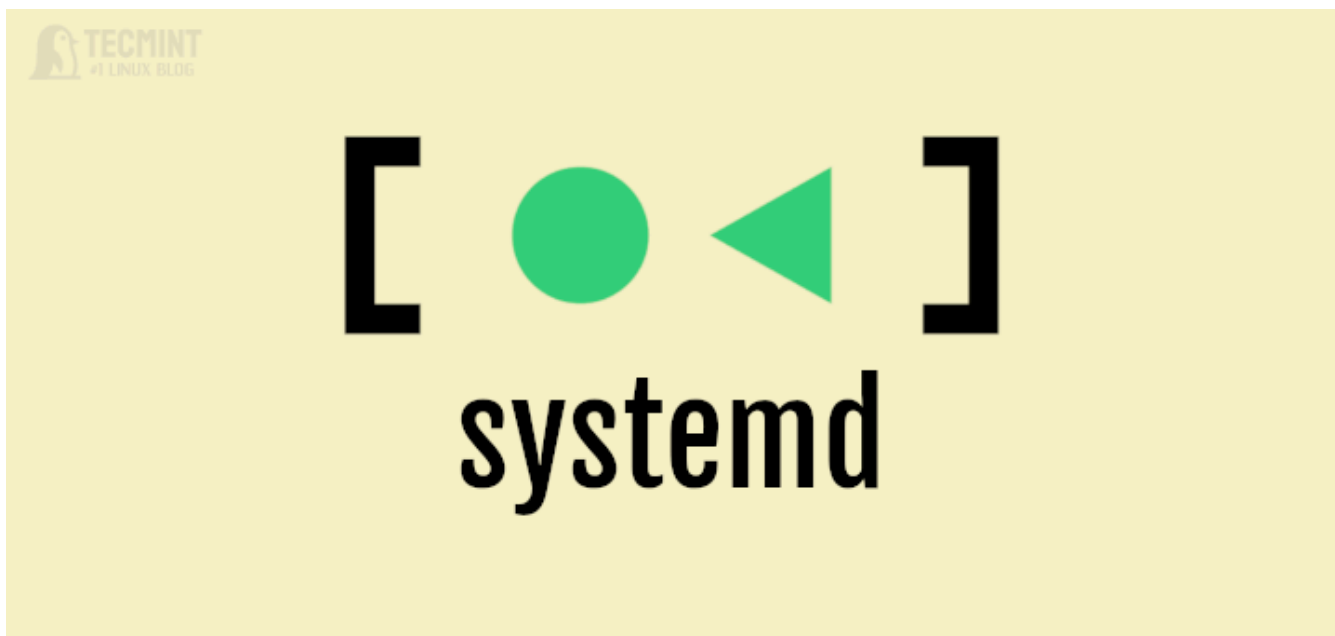
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Konstantinos K. Bourdakos

April 26, 2023 at 2:23 am

Hi,

The wrap needs `--line` flag, `-l` is being used for specifying the language.

Thank you,

[Reply](#)

Admin



Ravi Saive

April 26, 2023 at 9:52 am

@Konstantinos,

Yes, it should be a `--line` flag, which set line wrap length.

[Reply](#)

Dik dollan

April 16, 2021 at 12:23 pm

Add this zsh script with wikiti for low tech A.I in your mac terminal. change the V1 variable to change the voice.

Change v4 Variable to the file path you want to store temporary files. These files are deleted when the script stops running. Install espeak and replace say with its command for use in Linux.

```
#!/bin/bash
```

```
v1="Daniel"
```

```
v3="y"
```

```
v4="/Users/dickdollar/scripts/DarwinAi/result"
```

```
v5="sleep .5s"
```

```
[
repeat (){
read -p "What Is/ Are: " v2
say -v $v1 "I Am searching for info on "$v2""
wikit $v2 > $v4"$v2".txt
say -v $v1 -f $v4"$v2".txt;$v5
rm $v4*.txt
}
```

```
say -v $v1 "Hello My Name Is Darwin";$v5;say -v $v1 "I Answer Questions In
The Form of What Is"
```

```
repeat
```

```
while [ $v3 == "y" ]
do
say -v $v1 "Do you have another Question"
read -p "y/n: " v3
```

```
if [ $v3 == "n" ]
then
break
fi
```

```
repeat
```

```
done
```

```
say -v $v1 "Goodbye"
```

[Reply](#)

Briain

March 17, 2021 at 12:00 am

There's a typo for installing it should be ``npm install -g wikit``.

[Reply](#)

Malcul

May 13, 2020 at 9:20 pm

This has worked for me previously on Mint 19.3 but since a complete reinstall, this set of instructions has left me needing 'sudo' in front of every query. Can there be a simple solution?

[Reply](#)

Gene Wilburn

February 3, 2019 at 7:35 pm

To install the wikit command-line tool in MacOS, using brew, do the following:

```
$ brew install nodejs  
$ npm install wikit -g
```

Avoid using 'sudo'.

[Reply](#)

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