

Linux Cheat Sheet

File Commands	
Command	Description
cat <file></file>	Print file contents
touch <file></file>	Create file (or update timestamp)
cp <src> <dst></dst></src>	Copy a file
mv <src> <dst></dst></src>	Move / rename a file
rm <file></file>	Remove file
head <file></file>	Print first 10 lines of file
tail <file></file>	Print last 10 lines of file
tail -f <file></file>	Print last 10 lines and any new lines added to file

Directory Commands	
Command	Description
ls	List files in the current directory
ls <dir></dir>	List files in <dir></dir>
ls -l	List files with details
ls -a	List all files (including hidden)
ls -al	List all files with details
pwd	Print the current/working directory
cd <dir></dir>	Change current directory to <dir></dir>
cd	Go up one directory
mkdir <dir></dir>	Create directory
mkdir -p <dir></dir>	Create directory and any missing parent directories
cp -r <src> <dst></dst></src>	Copy a directory and its contents
mv <src> <dst></dst></src>	Move / rename a directory
rmdir <dir></dir>	Remove an empty directory
rm -r <dir></dir>	Remove a directory and its contents

Directory Aliases	
Alias	Directory
	Current directory
• •	Parent directory
~	Home directory

Link Commands	
Command	Description
<pre>ln -s <target> <link/></target></pre>	Create symbolic link
<pre>ln <target> <link/></target></pre>	Create hard link
readlink -f <file></file>	Print absolute path of file

Search Commands	
Command	Description
<pre>grep <pattern> <file></file></pattern></pre>	Search for pattern in file(s)
grep -r <pattern> <dir></dir></pattern>	Search for pattern recursively in a directory
grep -i <pattern> <file></file></pattern>	Search for pattern case- insensitively
grep -v <pattern> <file></file></pattern>	Search for lines not matching pattern
grep -n <pattern> <file></file></pattern>	Search and print line numbers
find <dir> -name <name>*</name></dir>	Find files in <dir> with name starting with <name></name></dir>
find <dir> -type <type></type></dir>	Find files in <dir> of type <type></type></dir>

Superuser Commands	
Command	Description
sudo <cmd></cmd>	Run command as superuser (root)
su	Switch to superuser (root)
su <user></user>	Switch to user <user></user>

File Permission Commands	
Command	Description
chmod <mode> <file></file></mode>	Change file permissions
chmod u+x <file></file>	Add execute permission for the owner
chmod 644 <file></file>	Set file permissions to 644 (read/write for owner, read for group and everyone else)
chmod -R g+w <dir></dir>	Add write permission for the group recursively to a directory
chown <owner> <file></file></owner>	Change file owner
chown -R <owner> <dir></dir></owner>	Change directory owner recursively
<pre>chown <owner>:<group> <file></file></group></owner></pre>	Change file owner and group
chgrp <group> <file></file></group>	Change file group

File Permission Bits	
Bit	Description
4	Read (r)
2	Write (w)
1	Execute (x)

First digit represents the owner, the second digit represents the group, and the third digit represents everyone else.

For example, 640 means read/write for owner, read for group, and no permissions for everyone else.

File Permission User Types	
User Type	Description
u	Owner
g	Group
0	Everyone else
a	All

System Information	n Commands
Command	Description
df	Show file system disk usage
df -h	Show disk usage in MB/GB/TB
du	Show disk usage per directory
du -h	Show disk usage in MB/GB/TB
free	Show memory usage
free -h	Show memory usage in MB/GB/TB
uptime	Show uptime
whoami	Show current user
uname	Show system information
uname -a	Show all system information

Secure Shell (SSH) Commands	
Command	Description
ssh-keygen	Generate SSH key pair
ssh-add <key></key>	Add SSH key to SSH agent
ssh-add -l	List SSH keys in SSH agent
ssh-copy-id <user>@<host></host></user>	Copy SSH key to <host> for <user></user></host>
ssh <host></host>	Connect to <host> as current user</host>
ssh <user>@<host></host></user>	Connect to <host> as <user></user></host>
scp <src> <host>:<dest></dest></host></src>	Copy local file <src> to <dest> on <host></host></dest></src>
<pre>scp <host>:<src> <dest></dest></src></host></pre>	Copy file <src> from <host> to local <dest></dest></host></src>

IO Redirection	
Command	Description
<cmd> > <file></file></cmd>	Replace contents of file with output
<cmd> >> <file></file></cmd>	Append output to file
<cmd> < <file></file></cmd>	Redirect input from file
<cmd> 2> <file></file></cmd>	Redirect stderr to file
<cmd> &> <file></file></cmd>	Redirect stdout and stderr to file
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Pipe Commands	
Command	Description
<cmd1> <cmd2></cmd2></cmd1>	Pipe stdout to next cmd
<cmd1> & <cmd2></cmd2></cmd1>	Pipe stderr to next cmd

Shutdown/Reboot Commands		
Command	Description	
shutdown	Power off the system after 1 minute	
shutdown now	Power off the system immediately	
shutdown 16:30	Power off the system at 16:30	
shutdown -c	Cancel a scheduled shutdown	
reboot	Reboot system	
poweroff	Power off system	

APT Commands (Debian/Ubuntu)		
Command	Description	
apt install <pkg></pkg>	Install package	
apt remove <pkg></pkg>	Remove package	
apt purge <pkg></pkg>	Remove package and config files	
apt update	Update package list	
apt upgrade	Upgrade packages	
apt search <term></term>	Search for package	

Bash Shortcuts	
Shortcut	Description
Ctrl + C	Stop current command
Ctrl + A	Go to beginning of line
Ctrl + E	Go to end of line
Ctrl + K	Cut current line
Ctrl + L	Clear screen

Process Commands	
Command	Description
ps	List processes
ps -ef	List all processes
top	Display processes in real time
kill <pid></pid>	Kill process
pkill <name></name>	Kill process with name
killall <name></name>	Kill all processes with name

Description
Print message to stdout
Display manual page for <cmd></cmd>
Display history of given commands
Find path to executable <cmd></cmd>
Locate binary, source, and manual page for <cmd></cmd>

Directory Structure	
Directory	Description
/	Root
/bin	Binary or executable programs
/etc	System configuration files
/home	User home directories
/opt	Optional or third-party software
/tmp	Temporary files
/usr	User programs
/var	Variable data
/var/log	Log files