

Basic GNU/Linux commands

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Table of Contents

- Navigation in a shell
- Files and directories
- Writing and displaying

FHS (Filesystem Hierarchy Standard)

FHS is a directory structure used by every Linux distros.

[More info](#)

Navigation in a shell

ls

List directory contents.

| GNU coreutils, (1) General commands

Useful options with `ls`

Arguments	Description
<code>-l</code>	More information in list format.
<code>-a</code>	Hidden files.
<code>-R</code>	Recursive, list files in sub-directories.
<code>-lSh</code>	Sort by size with human readable.
<code>-i</code>	Inodes.
<code>-n</code>	Numeric UID and GID.

cd

Change the working directory.

Built in shell command, no proper man

```
type cd
```

```
help cd
```

```
man builtins
```

Useful commands with `cd`

Commands	Description
<code>cd ..</code>	Go to parent directory.
<code>cd -</code>	Go back to the previous working directory
<code>cd</code> or <code>cd ~</code>	Go the home directory.

pwd

Print name of current working directory.

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Files and directories

mkdir

Create/make directories.

Usage : `mkdir directory`

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Useful options with `mkdir`

Options	Description
<code>-p</code>	Create parents directories if don't exist.

rm

Remove files or directories.

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Useful options with `rm`

Options	Description
<code>-i</code>	Alert before every removal.
<code>-d</code>	Remove only empty directory.
<code>-r</code>	Remove directories and their contents recursively.

cp

Copy files and directories.

Usage : `cp source destination`

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Useful options with `cp`

Options	Description
<code>-d</code>	No deference, preserve links.
<code>-r</code>	Copy recursively.
<code>-a</code>	Same as <code>-dr</code> .



Move or rename files and directories.

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Writing and displaying

touch

Change file timestamps.

Can also create an empty file.

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cat

Concatenate files and print on the standard output.
Can also create and write in files.

GNU coreutils, (1) General commands

Read a file

```
cat file
```

Write in a file

```
cat > file
```

Stop writing with `Ctrl + c`

Add in a file

```
cat >> file
```

Bonus "Here document"

```
cat > file << EOF
```

head

Output the first part of files.

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Useful options with `head`

Options	Description
<code>-n NUM</code>	Print the first NUM lines.
<code>-n -NUM</code>	Print all but not the last NUM lines.

tail

Output the last part of files.

| GNU coreutils, (1) General commands

Useful options with `tail`

Options	Description
<code>-n NUM</code>	Print the last NUM lines.
<code>-n +NUM</code>	Print starting at line NUM.
<code>-f</code>	Output appended data as the file grows.

Thank you !