

Command/Concept	Usage/Syntax	Description	Example
Absolute path	<code>/<dir>/<dir>/<file></code>	Absolute paths to a file or directory always start at the top of the filesystem tree, i.e., <code>/</code> , and traverse "down"	# Class directory <code>/ACTF/Course/inx_u18</code> # "Message of the day" file <code>/etc/motd</code>
Relative path	<code><relative to \$PWD></code>	A relative path can locate a file or directory, which is "relative" to your <code>\$PWD</code>	# cd to your "projects" # directory without # specifying an absolute path <code>cd \$HOME</code> <code>cd projects</code>
<code>.</code>	Special file <code>.</code>	<u>Every</u> directory on the filesystem contains a hidden file <code>.</code> (single period). This file represents "here" (<i>this</i> directory). Seen by <code>ls -a</code>	# Go "here" # (Stay in the same directory) <code>cd .</code>
<code>..</code>	Special file <code>..</code>	<u>Every</u> directory on the filesystem contains a hidden file <code>..</code> (two periods). This file represents "go up" (one directory). Seen by <code>ls -a</code>	# Go "up" one directory <code>cd ..</code>
<code>less</code>	<code>less <path_to_file></code>	View the contents of a file. Arrow keys for up/down. Return/Enter key for a single line forward. Space bar for a page forward; <code>b</code> for back a page. <code>q</code> to quit out of less. Note: The mouse is useless!	# View "Message of the day" <code>less /etc/motd</code>
Search for a pattern in a file using <code>less</code>	<code>less <path_to_file></code> <code>/<search pattern></code>	Search mode invoked by: <code>/<search pattern></code> <code>n</code> for next match <code>p</code> for previous match	# View "Message of the day" <code>less /etc/motd</code> # Search for string: CGRB <code>/CGRB</code>

OSU Center for Genome Research and Biocomputing (CGRB), MCB 599: "Introduction to Unix/Linux" (INX_U18)
"Cheat Sheet": Day 3, Pages: 4, Revision: 2018-07-25, Instructor: Matthew Peterson (matthew@cgrb.oregonstate.edu)

<code>less -S</code>	<code>less -S <file></code>	Ensure "long" lines are not word-wrapped on the display but instead extend "off screen." Scroll left/right with the arrow keys on those lines to see the content. CGRB infrastructure defaults to <code>-S</code> without having to specify it.	# Ensure no word-wrap <code>less -S /etc/bashrc</code>
<code>mkdir</code>	<code>mkdir <new_dir></code> <code>mkdir <validpath>/<new_dir></code>	Create a new directory in your <code>\$PWD</code> . You can create a new directory (outside your <code>\$PWD</code>) given a valid path	# Create a new directory # 'testo1' in your home dir <code>cd \$HOME</code> <code>mkdir testo1</code> # Create a new directory # 'testo2' in your home dir <code>mkdir \$HOME/testo2</code>
<code>mv</code>	<code>mv <source> <dest></code>	Move or rename a file or directory.	# Rename directory # 'testo2' to 'testo3' <code>cd \$HOME</code> <code>mv testo2 testo3</code>
Move files into a directory	<code>mv <f1> <f2> <dest></code>	Move several files into a pre-existing directory.	<code>mv f1.txt f2.txt f3.txt testo3</code>
<code>cp</code>	<code>cp <source> <dest></code>	Copy files and directories. Similar to <code>mv</code> with two differences: The original file is <u>not</u> removed. If you want to copy a directory use the recursive option: <code>-r</code>	# f4.txt is copied ("cloned") # into the testo3 directory <code>cp f4.txt testo3</code> # Copy the testo1 dir into # the testo3 dir <code>cp -r testo1 testo3</code>
<code>rm</code>	<code>rm <path_to_file></code>	Removes a file	<code>rm f4.txt</code>
<code>rm -r</code> <code>rm -rf</code>	<code>rm -r <dir></code> <code>rm -rf <dir></code>	Removes (recursively) a directory with <code>-r</code> . Use <code>-f</code> (force) to suppress y/n removal confirmations.	# Asks confirmation <code>rm -r testo3</code> # No prompting, quiet <code>rm -rf testo3</code>

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du	du -sh <source>	Determine size of a file or directory (-s summary). "Human readable" size (-h), e.g., Kilobytes, Megabyte, Gigabyte, and Terabyte	# Size of home directory cd \$HOME du -hs . # Size of projects directory du -sh projects
nano	nano <path_to_file>	Text editor. Arrow keys to move around. Ctrl-o to save changes. Ctrl-x to exit. nano -w to turn off word wrapping (for <u>newly</u> edited text).	nano todo.txt
man	man <command name>	Manual page for a command. Uses less to view the page.	man du man nano man man
info	info <command name>	Info documents for a command; different information than man (possibly less "cryptic"). Not available for all commands.	info du info nano info man
top	top	Displays running processes on the server. Processes sorted by %CPU. %MEM shows total system memory used.	top
Wildcard: *	*	Matches 0 or more characters.	ls f1.txt f2.txt f99.txt # Move all files mv * \$HOME/projects
Wildcard: ?	?	Matches any single character.	ls f1.txt f2.txt f99.txt # Move files with single digits # Does <u>not</u> move f99.txt mv f?.txt \$HOME/projects

Shell tab completion	<tab>	When writing out paths on the command line you can have the shell attempt to "auto-complete" what you are typing (after the first few characters). If there's an ambiguous match it will show all the possible options when you press <tab>. Type some more characters that match followed by <tab> to continue.	# Press <tab> key cd /ACTF/Co<tab> # This auto-completes # to /ACTF/Course
Shell history	Up arrow at the command prompt	Loads the previous commands you have run (from your history). You can use the left/right arrow keys to edit previous commands; press <Enter> to re-run that command.	# For each previous # command repeatedly press: <up arrow>