Linux tar Command

the tar command is one of the essential commands as far as file management is concerned. It's short for Tape Archive, and it's used for creating & extracting archive files. An archive file is a compressed file containing one or multiple files bundled together for more accessible storage and portability.

\$ tar [options][archive-file] [file or dir to be archived]

tar Command Options

- The tar command provides the following options:
- -c: This creates an archive file.
- **-x**: The option extracts the archive file.
- -f: Specifies the filename of the archive file.
- -v: This prints verbose information for any tar operation on the terminal.
- -t: This lists all the files inside an archive file.
- -u: This archives a file and then adds it to an existing archive file.
- -r: This updates a file or directory located inside a .tar file
- -z: Creates a tar file using gzip compression

- -j: Create an archive file using the bzip2 compression
- **-W**: The -w option verifies an archive file.

Create an archive file when using the gzip compression (using the -z option), the file should bear the .tar.gz suffix. For example, the command below creates an archive file called sales.tar.gz from the three PDF files.

\$ tar -czvf sales.tar.gz sales1.pdf sales2.pdf sales3.pdf

Suppose you want to create an archive file using the bzip2 compression (using the -j option) algorithm. The archive file should be suffixed with a .tar.bz2 extension. Using our first example, we can compress the three PDF files using the bzip2 algorithm as follows.

\$ tar -cjvf sales.tar.bz2 sales1.pdf sales2.pdf sales3.pdf

you can also compress directories. For example, the command below creates a simple tar archive file of the home directory.

\$ tar -cvf home.tar /home/james

List the contents of an archive file

Using the -t option, you can have a peek or list the contents of an archive file without extracting it as shown.

\$ tar -tf sales.tar.gz

Extract an archive file in the current directory

To extract an archive file in the current working directory, use the -x option as shown below. In the example below, we are uncompressing or extracting the documents.tar.gz archive, which contains three text files.

\$ tar -xvf documents.tar.gz

Extract an archive file in a separate directory

To extract an archive file to a different directory, the -C option is followed by the destination path, as shown in the example below.

\$ tar -xvf documents.tar.gz -C /tmp/files

Extract specific files from an archive

You can extract certain specified files by listing them one by one on the command line. In the example below, we are extracting the files file1.txt and file2.txt from the documents.tar.gz archive.

\$ tar -xvf documents.tar.gz file1.txt file2.txt

Add a file to a .tar archive

To add or append a .tar archive file, use the -r option as shown. Here, we are adding the file file3.txt to the archives.tar archive.

\$ tar -rvf archives.tar file3.txt

Remove a file from a .tar archive

To remove a file from a .tar archive, use the -delete option as shown. Here, we are doing the complete opposite and removing the file file3.txt instead.

\$ tar --delete -f archives.tar file3.txt

Making an uncompressed tar archive with -cvf option

This option makes a tar file known as **file.tar**. It is the archive of every .txt file inside *mydir* directory.

The command is as follows:

\$ tar cvf file.tar *.txt

Extracting files through the archive with -xvf option

This option can extract files through archives.

\$ tar xvf file.tar

gzip compression over tar archive with -z option

This option makes a tar file known as file.tar.gz. It is the archive of every .txt file.

The command is as follows:

\$ tar cvzf file.tar.gz *.txt

Untar multiple .tar.tbz, .tar.gz, .tar files

This option will help us to **untar** or extract more than one file from tar.bz2, tar.gz, and a tar archive file.

```
$ tar -jxvf file.tar.tbz "hello1.txt"
$ tar -zxvf file.tar.gz "hello1.txt" "hello2.txt"
```

Check the size of the existing tar.tbz, tar.gz, tar file

The command will help us to show the archive file's size in kilobytes (KB) which is mentioned above.

The command is as follows:

```
$ tar -czf - file2.tar.tbz | wc -c
```

Or,

\$ tar -czf - file1.tar.gz | wc -c

Or,

\$ tar -czf - file.tar | wc -c

Touch Command

In **Linux** every single file is associated with timestamps, and every file stores the information of last access time, last modification time and last change time. So, whenever we create new file, access or modify an existing file, the timestamps of that file automatically updated.

Touch Command Options

- -a, change the access time only
- -c, if the file does not exist, do not create it
- -d, update the access and modification times
- -m, change the modification time only
- -r, use the access and modification times of file
- -t, creates a file using a specified time

1. How to Create an Empty File

The following touch command creates an empty (zero byte) new file called sheena.

touch sheena

2. How to Create Multiple Files

By using touch command, you can also create more than one single file. For example the following command will create 3 files named, sheena, meena and leena.

touch sheena meena leena

3. How to Change File Access and Modification Time

To change or update the last access and modification times of a file called **leena**, use the **-a** option as follows. The following command sets the current time and date on a file. If the **leena** file does not exist, it will create the new empty file with the name.

touch -a leena

4. How to Avoid Creating New File

Using -c option with touch command avoids creating new files. For example the following command will not create a file called **leena** if it does not exists.

touch -c leena

5. How to Change File Modification Time

If you like to change the only modification time of a file called **leena**, then use the **m** option with touch command. Please note it will only updates the last modification times (not the access times) of the file.

touch -m leena

6. Explicitly Set the Access and Modification times

You can explicitly set the time using **-c** and **-t** option with touch command. The format would be as follows.

touch -c -t YYDDHHMM leena

touch -c -t 22201730 leena.

the access and modification time of file leena, with Is -I command.

7. How to Use the time stamp of another File

The following touch command with **-r** option, will update the time-stamp of file **meena** with the time-stamp of **leena** file. So, both the file holds the same time stamp.

touch -r leena meena

. Create a File using a specified time

If you would like to create a file with specified time other than the current time, then the format should be.

touch -t YYMMDDHHMM.SS tec

For example the below command touch command with **-t** option will gives the **tec** file a time stamp of **18:30:55 p.m**. on Mar **20**, **2022**.

touch -t 202003201830.55 tec

Find Command

The find command is used to search and locate the list of files and directories based on conditions you specify for files that match the arguments. **find command** can be used in a variety of conditions like you can find files by **permissions**, **users**, **groups**, **file types**, **date**, **size**, and other possible criteria.

1. Find Files Using Name in Current Directory

Find all the files whose name is **tec.txt** in a current working directory.

```
# find . -name tec.txt
./tec.txt
```

2. Find Files Under Home Directory

Find all the files under /home directory with the name tec.txt.

```
# find /home -name tec.txt
/home/tecmint.txt
```

3. Find Files Using Name and Ignoring Case

Find all the files whose name is **tec.txt** and contains both capital and small letters in **/home** directory.

```
# find /home -iname tec.txt
./tec.txt
./Tec.txt
```

4. Find Directories Using Name

Find all directories whose name is **Tec** in / directory.

```
# find / -type d -name Tec
/Tecmint
```

5. Find PHP Files Using Name

Find all **php** files whose name is **tec.php** in a current working directory.

```
# find . -type f -name tec.php ./tecmint.php
```

```
6. Find all PHP Files in the Directory
Find all php files in a directory.
# find . -type f -name "*.php"
./tec.php ./login.php ./index.php
                          Part II – Find Files Based on their Permissions
Find all the files whose permissions are 777.
# find . -type f -perm 0777 -print8.
Find Files Without 777 Permissions
Find all the files without permission 777.
# find / -type f!-perm 777
Find Read-Only Files
Find all Read-Only files.
# find / -perm /u=r
Find Executable Files
Find all Executable files.
# find / -perm /a=x
```

Find Files with 777 Permissions and Chmod to 644

Find all 777 permission files and use the chmod command to set permissions to 644.

```
# find / -type f -perm 0777 -print -exec chmod 644 {} \;
```

Find Directories with 777 Permissions and Chmod to 755

Find all 777 permission directories and use the chmod command to set permissions to 755.

```
# find / -type d -perm 777 -print -exec chmod 755 {} \;
```

Find and remove single File

To find a single file called **tec.txt** and remove it.

```
# find . -type f -name "tec.txt" -exec rm -f {} \;
```

Find and remove Multiple File

To find and remove multiple files such as .mp3 or .txt, then use.

```
# find . -type f -name "*.txt" -exec rm -f {} \;
OR
```

find . -type f -name "*.mp3" -exec rm -f {} \;

Find all Empty Files

To find all empty files under a certain path.

find /tmp -type f -empty20.

Find all Empty Directories

To file all empty directories under a certain path.

find /tmp -type d -empty21.

File all Hidden Files

To find all hidden files, use the below command.

find /tmp -type f -name ".*"

Part III – Search Files Based On Owners and Groups

Find Single File Based on User

To find all or single files called **tec.txt** under / root directory of owner root.

find / -user root -name tec.txt

Find all Files Based on User

To find all files that belong to user **Tec** under **/home** directory.

find /home -user tecmint24.

Find all Files Based on Group

To find all files that belong to the group **Developer** under **/home** directory.

find /home -group developer25.

Find Particular Files of User

To find all .txt files of user Tec under /home directory.

find /home -user tec -iname "*.txt"

Part IV - Find Files and Directories Based on Date and Time

Find Last 50 Days Modified Files

To find all the files which are modified 50 days back.

find / -mtime 50

Find Last 50 Days Accessed Files

To find all the files which are accessed **50** days back.

find / -atime 5028.

Find Last 50-100 Days Modified Files

To find all the files which are modified more than **50** days back and less than **100** days.

find / -mtime +50 -mtime -10029.

Find Changed Files in Last 1 Hour

To find all the files which are changed in the last 1 hour.

find / -cmin -6030.

Find Modified Files in Last 1 Hour

To find all the files which are modified in the last 1 hour.

find / -mmin -6031.

Find Accessed Files in Last 1 Hour

To find all the files which are accessed in the last 1 hour.

find / -amin -60

Part V – Find Files and Directories Based on Size

Find 50MB Files

To find all **50MB** files, use.

find / -size 50M

Find Size between 50MB – 100MB

To find all the files which are greater than **50MB** and less than **100MB**.

find / -size +50M -size -100M

Find and Delete 100MB Files

To find all 100MB files and delete them using one single command.

```
# find / -type f -size +100M -exec rm -f {} \;
```

Find Specific Files and Delete

Find all .mp3 files with more than 10MB and delete them using one single command.

```
# find / -type f -name *.mp3 -size +10M -exec rm {} \;
```

echo' command

The echo command is one of the most commonly and widely used built-in commands for Linux bash and C shells, that typically used in a scripting language and batch files to display a line of text/string on standard output or a file.

The syntax for the echo command is:

- echo [option(s)] [string(s)]
- 1. Input a line of text and display it on standard output
- \$ echo Tec is a community of Linux Nerds
- Outputs the following text:
- Tec is a community of Linux Nerds
- 2. Declare a variable and echo its value. For example, Declare a variable of x and assign its value=10.

echo its value:

\$ echo The value of variable x = \$x

The value of variable x = 10

Note: The '-e' option in Linux acts as an interpretation of escaped characters that are backslashed.

3. Using option \mathbf{b}' – backspace with backslash interpretor \mathbf{b}' which removes all the spaces in between.

\$ echo -e "Tec \bis \ba \bcommunity \bof \bLinux \bNerds"

TecisacommunityofLinuxNerds

4. Using option $(\mathbf{n}' - \mathbf{New})$ line with backspace interpretor (\mathbf{e}') treats new line from where it is used.

\$ echo -e "Tec \nis \na \ncommunity \nof \nLinux \nNerds"

Tec is a community of Linux Nerds

- **5.** Using option $\mathbf{t}' \mathbf{t}' \mathbf{t}' \mathbf{t}'$ to have horizontal tab spaces.
- \$ echo -e "Tecmint \tis \ta \tcommunity \tof \tLinux \tNerds"
- Tecmint is a community of Linux Nerds
- **6.** How about using option new Line (n') and horizontal tab (t') simultaneously.
- \$ echo -e "\n\tTecmint \n\tis \n\ta \n\tcommunity \n\tof \n\tLinux \n\tNerds"
- **7.** Using option ' \mathbf{v} ' vertical tab with backspace interpretor '- \mathbf{e} ' to have vertical tab spaces.
- \$ echo -e "\vTecmint \vis \va \vcommunity \vof \vLinux \vNerds"
- **8.** How about using option new Line $\langle n' \rangle$ and vertical tab $\langle v' \rangle$ simultaneously.
- \$ echo -e "\n\vTecmint \n\vis \n\va \n\vcommunity \n\vof \n\vLinux \n\vNerds"
- The echo can be used with a redirect operator to output to a file and not standard output.
- \$ echo "Test Page" > testpage

'who' Command

who command which displays users who are currently logged on to a Linux system, including the terminals they are connecting from.

- \$ who who [OPTION]... [FILE | ARG1 ARG2]
- 1. If you run **who** command without any arguments, it will display account information (user login name, user's terminal, time of login as well as the host the user is logged in from) on your system similar to the one shown in the following output.

\$ who

2. To print the heading of the columns displayed, use the -H flag as shown.

\$ who -H

3. To print the login names and total number of logged on users, use the -q flag.

\$ who -q

4. In case you want to show only **hostname** and user associated with **stdin**, use the -m switch.

\$ who -m

5. Next, to add user's message status as +, - or ?, use the -T option.

\$ who -T

he who command also helps you to view some useful system information such as **last boot time**, **current runlevel** (**target** under **systemd**), print dead processes as well as processes spawned by **init**.

6. To view the time of last system boot, use the -b flag and adding the -u option allows for listing of logged on users in the same output.

\$ who -b

\$ who -bu

7. You can check the current runlevel with the -r option.

\$ who -r

8. The following command will print dead processes.

\$ who -d

9. Furthermore, to see active processes spawned by init, use the -p option.

\$ who -p

10. Last but not least, the -a flag allows for printing of default output combined with information from some of the options we have covered.

\$ who -a

you can find more options by consulting the who man page.

\$ man who

whoami Command in Linux

whoami is an basic Unix/Linux command used to find username associated with current effective user id. This is generally used to identify the current logged in user in a shell. This command is also useful in shell scripts to identify the user id from which the script is running.

Syntax:

whoami [OPTION]...

Simply type the 'whoami' on command prompt to find logged in user in current shell.

whoami

root

• Let's write a small bash shell script and check if script is running as root user or not. This is very useful to warn user that the script is running as root user.

```
#!/bin/bash
2
3 if [ `whoami` == 'root' ]; then
4    echo "Warning! You are running this script as root user"
5 fi
```

Difference Between whoami and who am i Command

Both the commands whoami and who am i are used to get logged in username in Linux system. The username is defined in passwd file associate with effective user id.

When a user login as root on the network, then both whoami and who am I commands will return root.

whoami

Output:> root

Who am I

Output:> root pts/14

But, when you logged in as another user (eg: rahul) and switched to root user (su – root). The whoami will show root but who am i will show the originally logged in user 'rahul'.

whoami

Output:> root

who am i Output:> rahul pts/14

Linux wc command

The Linux wc command is used to count the number of lines, words, and byte (character) in a file or input stream.

Syntax:

wc [OPITON] [FILE] **Example:**

Use -I to count the number of lines in a file

wc -l myfile.txt Use -w to count the number of words in a file

wc -w myfile.txt Use -c to count the number of bytes in a file. You can use this to count character in a file

wc -c myfile.txt

Use wc with Piped Input

You can also use we with piped input in Linux and count the lines, words, and characters in an input data.

cat myfile.txt | wc -lwc

Another example of wc command to count the number of lines in the output of the previous command.

find . -name "*.log" | wc -l

Linux ps command

The ps command, short for Process Status, is a command line utility that is used to **display or view information related to the processes running in a Linux system**. The ps command lists current running processes alongside their PIDs and other attributes.

ps command without arguments

The ps command without arguments lists the running processes in the current shell

ps

- The output consists of four columns
- PID This is the unique process ID
- TTY This is the typeof terminal that the user is logged in to
- TIME This is the time in minutes and seconds that the process has been running
- CMD The command that launched the process

Viewing all the running processes in different formats

To have a glance at all the running processes, execute the command below

ps -A

ps -e

View processes associated with the terminal

To view processes associated with the terminal run

ps -T

View processes not associated with terminal

To view all processes with the exception of processes associated with the terminal and session leaders execute

ps -a

Show all current running processes

To view all current processes execute

ps -ax

- -a flag stands for all processes
- -x will display all processes even those not associated with the current tty

Display all processes in BSD format

If you wish to display processes in BSD format, execute

ps au OR

ps aux

To perform full format listing

To view a full format listing run

ps -ef OR

ps -eF

Filter processes according to the user

If you wish to list processes associated with a specific user, use the -u flag as shown

ps -u user

For example

ps -u jamie

Filter process by thread process

If you wish to know the thread of a particular process, make use of the -Lflag followed by the PID

For example

ps -L 4264

Show every process running as root

Sometimes, you may want to reveal all processes run by the root user. To achieve this run

ps -U root -u root

Display group processes

If you wish to list all processes associated by a certain group run

ps -fG group_nameOr

ps -fG groupID

For example

ps -fG root

Kill Linux

- Linux Operating System comes with a **kill command** to terminate a process. The command makes it possible to continue running the server without the need to reboot after a major change/update. Here comes the great power of Linux and this is one of the reasons, why Linux is running on **96.4%** of servers, on the planet.
- Kill Command Usage
- The common syntax for kill command is:
- # kill [signal or option] PID(s)
 List All Running Linux Processes
- To know all the processes and correspondingly their assigned pid, run the following ps command.
- # ps –A
- How about Customising the above output using syntax as 'pidof process'.
- # pidof mysqld. 1684

Another way to achieve the above goal is to follow the below syntax.

ps aux | grep mysqld

How to Kill a Process in Linux

Before we step ahead and execute a **kill command**, some important points to be noted:

A user can kill all his processes.

A user can not kill another user's process.

A user can not kill processes the System is using.

A root user can kill System-level-process and the process of any user.

To kill the above process **PID**, use the kill command as shown.

kill -9 3139

The above command will kill the process having **pid=3139**, where **PID** is a **Numerical Value** of the process.

Another way to perform the same function can be rewritten as.

kill -SIGTERM 3139

Similarly 'kill -9 PID' is similar to 'kill -SIGKILL PID' and vice-versa.

How to Kill a Process in Linux Using Process Name

You must be aware of the process name, before killing and entering a wrong process name may screw you.

pkill mysqld

Kill more than one process at a time.

- # kill PID1 PID2 PID3 or
- # kill -9 PID1 PID2 PID3 or
- # kill -SIGKILL PID1 PID2 PID3

chmod command

The "chmod" command in Linux enables you to control the access of scripts, directories, and your system files. This command is utilized to change the Linux file permissions, which seems a complicated method but is simple once you understand its functionality. Before discussing the chmod command, let's go through the fundamentals of Linux file permission.

File permission is the type of access associated with a file. Each file in Linux has its owner, a group, and permission access for three main types of users: the file owner, the group members, and others. Each of these user classes has three types of file permissions: read, write, and execute permissions. Knowing about the file permission helps you specify which users can execute, read, or write the file.

How to check file permission in Linux

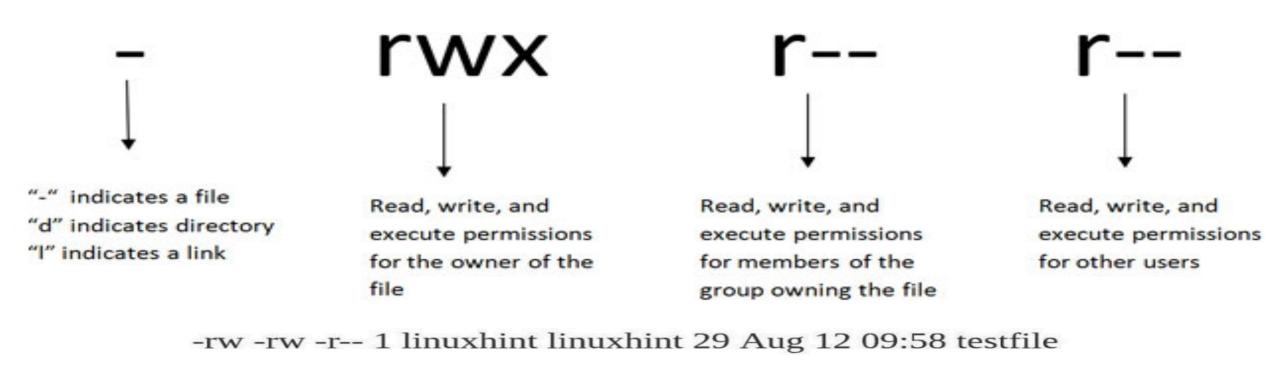
The "Is" is used to check the permission of the files present on your system. To view permission of a single file, add its name to the "Is" command. For instance, we will execute the below-given command to check the file permissions of the "testfile":

• Is -I testfile

File type

rw-

• Here, the "-I" option is added to get the content of the "testfile" including its file permissions:



rw-

Owner permissions Group permissions Other permissions

linuxhint

Owner

linuxhint

Group

The **first character** in the output specifies the **entry type** where "–" represents a "**file**", and "d" indicates a "**directory**". Then we have, **three sets of nine characters**, where **the first three characters set** represent file **owner permissions**, **the next characters set** represent **group permissions**, and **the last set** represents permissions for **other** users that are not considered in the first two categories:

Each **set** of permissions contains **three characters**. If the character is a dash "—", it indicates that access permissions are denied. Permission has been given to a user if the character is "**r**", "**w**", or "**x**". The "**r**" in a permission set indicates that the user only has **read permission** which means that the file can be only **opened** and **viewed**, with "**w**," you will have **write permission** for the specific file, and you will be able to **edit**, **modify** and **delete** the file. Lastly, the "**x**" letter represents the **execute permissions**; for instance, if your file is a C++ program or script, it will have the execute permission with the letter "**x**".

If the "**Is**" command shows you "—" for any set, this means that **no permission** is granted. In another case, "**rwx**" indicates that all types of permission are granted, including reading, writing, and executing.

Now you have some background related to file permissions, and it will help you understand the **chmod command** working more efficiently.

What is chmod command in Linux

The "chmod" is an acronym for "change mode". It modifies the access of your system directories, files, and scripts. The "chmod" command has specific modes that determine the permission for modification. These modes are represented by numerical form (letters) or symbolic form (octal numbers). When you use the chmod command with numerical form, it follows the below-given syntax:

\$ chmod [Options] [Filename]

- In numerical representation, we have these **options**:
- "0" represents "no permission".
- "1" represents "execute permission". Enter the directory and access files
- "2" represents "write permission". Delete or modify the files in a directory
- "4" represents "read permission". List the files within the directory
- If you want to use the symbolic representation, then **chmod** command syntax will be written as follows:

	Read	Write	Execute
Octal	4	2	1
Symbolic	r	W	X

When assigning permissions using the **octal** method, use a 3 byte number such as: 760.

The number 760 translates into: Owner: rwx; Group: rw; Other (or world) no permissions.

Another scenario: 733 would translate to: Owner: rwx; Group: wx; Other: wx.

\$ chmod [Option1] [Operator] [Option2] [Filename]

- We have the following **options** in the symbolic form:
- "u" indicates file owner.
- "g" indicates groups.
- "o" indicates others.
- "a" indicates all users as owner, group, and others (ugo).

Whereas the **chmod** command accepts the following **operators**:

- "+": This operator is utilized to add specified permissions.
- "-": This operator is utilized to remove specified permissions.
- "=": This operator is utilized to define the **exact file permission** for any user.

Example 1: Setting "read by owner only" file permission using chmod command

In this example, we will change the file permissions of "testfile" so that only the owner can read it. Other than this permission, no other group or user can read, write or execute this file. Even the owner will not have the access to execute and write something in the file. To do so, use "4" as a numerical representation of "read-only" and place it at the start of three character set, and adding "0" for the "groups" and "others" mode will not grant any permissions to those users:

- \$ chmod 400 testfile
- \$ ls -l testfile
- Example 2: Setting "read by group only" file permission using chmod command
- Place the "4" as "group" mode between the zeroes of "owner" and "others" mode. This sequence will associate "ready by group only" permission to the file:
- \$ chmod 040 testfile
- \$ ls -l testfile

you can allow the "read by others only" file permission by defining the "004" mode in the chmod command.

Example 3: Setting "write by owner only" file permission using chmod command In numerical representation of the modes, "2" indicates the "write" permissions. Place the "2" at the start of the permission set, and add two zeros after that:

\$ chmod 200 testfile

- Example 5: Setting "read by everyone" file permission using chmod command
- Using symbolic links, if you change the file permission to "read by everyone," then execute the below-given command in your terminal:
- \$ chmod a+r testfile
- Here "a" represents "all users", "r" indicates "read" permissions, and the "+" operator is used to add the read permission to the specified users:

Example 1:

Let's change the assgn1_client.c permission so that the owner cannot write(w) in the file but can only read it.

BEFORE: -rw-rw-r-- mik mik assgn1_client.c

COMMAND: chmod u=r assgn1_client.c

AFTER: -r--rw-r-- mik mik assgn1_client.c

Example 2:

Let's restrict the permission such that the user cannot search the directory EXAM.

BEFORE: drwxrwxr-x mik mik EXAM

COMMAND: chmod u=rw EXAM

AFTER: drw-rwxr-x mik mik EXAM