

( SS64 )

Linux

How-to

Search

## An A-Z Index of the **Linux** command line: **bash + utilities**.

<b>alias</b>	Create an alias •
<b>apropos</b>	Search Help manual pages (man -k)
<b>apt-get</b>	Search for and install software packages (Debian/Ubuntu)
<b>aptitude</b>	Search for and install software packages (Debian/Ubuntu)
<b>aspell</b>	Spell Checker
<b>awk</b>	Find and Replace text, database sort/validate/index
<b>b</b>	
<b>basename</b>	Strip directory and suffix from filenames
<b>base32</b>	Base32 encode/decode data and print to standard output
<b>base64</b>	Base64 encode/decode data and print to standard output
<b>bash</b>	GNU Bourne-Again Shell
<b>bc</b>	Arbitrary precision calculator language
<b>bg</b>	Send to background
<b>bind</b>	Set or display readline key and function bindings •
<b>break</b>	Exit from a loop •
<b>builtin</b>	Run a shell builtin
<b>bzip2</b>	Compress or decompress named file(s)
<b>c</b>	
<b>cal</b>	Display a calendar
<b>case</b>	Conditionally perform a command
<b>cat</b>	Concatenate and print (display) the content of files
<b>cd</b>	Change Directory
<b>cfdisk</b>	Partition table manipulator for Linux
<b>chattr</b>	Change file attributes on a Linux file system
<b>chgrp</b>	Change group ownership
<b>chmod</b>	Change access permissions
<b>chown</b>	Change file owner and group
<b>chpasswd</b>	Update passwords in batch mode
<b>chroot</b>	Run a command with a different root directory
<b>chkconfig</b>	System services (runlevel)
<b>cksum</b>	Print CRC checksum and byte counts
<b>clear</b>	Clear terminal screen
<b>cmp</b>	Compare two files
<b>comm</b>	Compare two sorted files line by line
<b>command</b>	Run a command - ignoring shell functions •
<b>continue</b>	Resume the next iteration of a loop •
<b>cp</b>	Copy one or more files to another location
<b>cpio</b>	Copy files to and from archives
<b>cron</b>	Daemon to execute scheduled commands
<b>crontab</b>	Schedule a command to run at a later time
<b>csplit</b>	Split a file into context-determined pieces
<b>curl</b>	Transfer data from or to a server
<b>cut</b>	Divide a file into several parts
<b>d</b>	
<b>date</b>	Display or change the date & time
<b>dc</b>	Desk Calculator
<b>dd</b>	Data Duplicator - convert and copy a file, write disk headers, boot records
<b>ddrescue</b>	Data recovery tool
<b>declare</b>	Declare variables and give them attributes •
<b>df</b>	Display free disk space
<b>diff</b>	Display the differences between two files
<b>diff3</b>	Show differences among three files
<b>dig</b>	DNS lookup
<b>dir</b>	Briefly list directory contents
<b>dircolors</b>	Colour setup for 'ls'
<b>dirname</b>	Convert a full pathname to just a path
<b>dirs</b>	Display list of remembered directories
<b>dmesg</b>	Print kernel & driver messages
<b>du</b>	Estimate file space usage
<b>e</b>	
<b>echo</b>	Display message on screen •
<b>egrep</b>	Search file(s) for lines that match an extended expression
<b>eject</b>	Eject removable media
<b>enable</b>	Enable and disable builtin shell commands •
<b>env</b>	Environment variables
<b>ethtool</b>	Ethernet card settings
<b>eval</b>	Evaluate several commands/arguments
<b>exec</b>	Execute a command
<b>exit</b>	Exit the shell
<b>expect</b>	Automate arbitrary applications accessed over a terminal
<b>expand</b>	Convert tabs to spaces
<b>export</b>	Set an environment variable
<b>expr</b>	Evaluate expressions
<b>f</b>	
<b>false</b>	Do nothing, unsuccessfully

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fdformat  Low-level format a floppy disk
fdisk     Partition table manipulator for Linux
fg        Send job to foreground
fgrep     Search file(s) for lines that match a fixed string
file      Determine file type
find      Search for files that meet a desired criteria
fmt       Reformat paragraph text
fold      Wrap text to fit a specified width.
for       Expand words, and execute commands
format    Format disks or tapes
free      Display memory usage
fsck      File system consistency check and repair
ftp       File Transfer Protocol
function  Define Function Macros
fuser     Identify/kill the process that is accessing a file

g
gawk      Find and Replace text within file(s)
getopts   Parse positional parameters
grep     Search file(s) for lines that match a given pattern
groupadd  Add a user security group
groupdel  Delete a group
groupmod  Modify a group
groups    Print group names a user is in
gzip     Compress or decompress named file(s)

h
hash      Remember the full pathname of a name argument
head      Output the first part of file(s)
help      Display help for a built-in command •
history   Command History
hostname  Print or set system name
htop      Interactive process viewer

i
iconv     Convert the character set of a file
id        Print user and group id's
if        Conditionally perform a command
ifconfig  Configure a network interface
ifdown    Stop a network interface
ifup      Start a network interface up
import    Capture an X server screen and save the image to file
install   Copy files and set attributes
iostat    Report CPU and i/o statistics
ip        Routing, devices and tunnels

j
jobs      List active jobs •
join      Join lines on a common field

k
kill      Kill a process by specifying its PID
killall   Kill processes by name

l
less      Display output one screen at a time
let       Perform arithmetic on shell variables •
link      Create a link to a file
ln        Create a symbolic link to a file
local     Create a function variable •
locate    Find files
logname   Print current login name
logout    Exit a login shell •
look      Display lines beginning with a given string
lpc       Line printer control program
lpr       Off line print
lprint    Print a file
lprintd   Delete a print job
lprintq   List the print queue
lprm      Remove jobs from the print queue
lsattr    List file attributes on a Linux second extended file system
lsblk     List block devices
ls        List information about file(s)
lsof      List open files
lspci     List all PCI devices

m
make      Recompile a group of programs
man       Help manual
mapfile   Read lines from standard input into an indexed array variable
mkdir     Create new folder(s)
mkfifo    Make FIFOs (named pipes)
mkfile    Make a file
mkisofs   Create an hybrid ISO9660/JOLIET/HFS filesystem
mknod     Make block or character special files
mktemp    Make a temporary file
more      Display output one screen at a time
most      Browse or page through a text file
mount     Mount a file system

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<code>mtools</code>	Manipulate MS-DOS files
<code>mtr</code>	Network diagnostics (traceroute/ping)
<code>mv</code>	Move or rename files or directories
<code>mmv</code>	Mass Move and rename (files)
n	
<code>nc</code>	Netcat, read and write data across networks
<code>netstat</code>	Networking connections/stats
<code>nft</code>	nftables for packet filtering and classification
<code>nice</code>	Set the priority of a command or job
<code>nl</code>	Number lines and write files
<code>nohup</code>	Run a command immune to hangups
<code>notify-send</code>	Send desktop notifications
<code>nslookup</code>	Query Internet name servers interactively
o	
<code>open</code>	Open a file in its default application
<code>op</code>	Operator access
p	
<code>passwd</code>	Modify a user password
<code>paste</code>	Merge lines of files
<code>pathchk</code>	Check file name portability
<code>Perf</code>	Performance analysis tools for Linux
<code>ping</code>	Test a network connection
<code>pgrep</code>	List processes by name
<code>pkill</code>	Kill processes by name
<code>popd</code>	Restore the previous value of the current directory
<code>pr</code>	Prepare files for printing
<code>printcap</code>	Printer capability database
<code>printenv</code>	Print environment variables
<code>printf</code>	Format and print data •
<code>ps</code>	Process status
<code>pushd</code>	Save and then change the current directory
<code>pv</code>	Monitor the progress of data through a pipe
<code>pwd</code>	Print Working Directory
q	
<code>quota</code>	Display disk usage and limits
<code>quotacheck</code>	Scan a file system for disk usage
r	
<code>ram</code>	ram disk device
<code>rar</code>	Archive files with compression
<code>rcp</code>	Copy files between two machines
<code>read</code>	Read a line from standard input •
<code>readarray</code>	Read from stdin into an array variable •
<code>readonly</code>	Mark variables/functions as readonly
<code>reboot</code>	Reboot the system
<code>rename</code>	Rename files
<code>renice</code>	Alter priority of running processes
<code>remsync</code>	Synchronize remote files via email
<code>return</code>	Exit a shell function
<code>rev</code>	Reverse lines of a file
<code>rm</code>	Remove files
<code>rmdir</code>	Remove folder(s)
<code>rsync</code>	Remote file copy (Synchronize file trees)
s	
<code>screen</code>	Multiplex terminal, run remote shells via ssh
<code>scp</code>	Secure copy (remote file copy)
<code>sdiff</code>	Merge two files interactively
<code>sed</code>	Stream Editor
<code>select</code>	Accept keyboard input
<code>seq</code>	Print numeric sequences
<code>set</code>	Manipulate shell variables and functions
<code>sftp</code>	Secure File Transfer Program
<code>shift</code>	Shift positional parameters
<code>shopt</code>	Shell Options
<code>shutdown</code>	Shutdown or restart linux
<code>sleep</code>	Delay for a specified time
<code>slocate</code>	Find files
<code>sort</code>	Sort text files
<code>source</code>	Run commands from a file '.'
<code>split</code>	Split a file into fixed-size pieces
<code>ss</code>	Socket Statistics
<code>ssh</code>	Secure Shell client (remote login program)
<code>stat</code>	Display file or file system status
<code>strace</code>	Trace system calls and signals
<code>su</code>	Substitute user identity
<code>sudo</code>	Execute a command as another user
<code>sum</code>	Print a checksum for a file
<code>suspend</code>	Suspend execution of this shell •
<code>sync</code>	Synchronize data on disk with memory
t	
<code>tail</code>	Output the last part of file
<code>tar</code>	Store, list or extract files in an archive
<code>tee</code>	Redirect output to multiple files

<code>test</code>	Evaluate a conditional expression
<code>time</code>	Measure Program running time
<code>timeout</code>	Run a command with a time limit
<code>times</code>	User and system times
<code>touch</code>	Change file timestamps
<code>top</code>	List processes running on the system
<code>tput</code>	Set terminal-dependent capabilities, color, position
<code>traceroute</code>	Trace Route to Host
<code>trap</code>	Execute a command when the shell receives a signal •
<code>tr</code>	Translate, squeeze, and/or delete characters
<code>true</code>	Do nothing, successfully
<code>tsort</code>	Topological sort
<code>tty</code>	Print filename of terminal on stdin
<code>type</code>	Describe a command •
u	
<code>ulimit</code>	Limit user resources •
<code>umask</code>	Users file creation mask
<code>umount</code>	Unmount a device
<code>unalias</code>	Remove an alias •
<code>uname</code>	Print system information
<code>unexpand</code>	Convert spaces to tabs
<code>uniq</code>	Uniquify files
<code>units</code>	Convert units from one scale to another
<code>unrar</code>	Extract files from a rar archive
<code>unset</code>	Remove variable or function names
<code>unshar</code>	Unpack shell archive scripts
<code>until</code>	Execute commands (until error)
<code>uptime</code>	Show uptime
<code>useradd</code>	Create new user account
<code>userdel</code>	Delete a user account
<code>usermod</code>	Modify user account
<code>users</code>	List users currently logged in
<code>uuencode</code>	Encode a binary file
<code>uudecode</code>	Decode a file created by uuencode
v	
<code>v</code>	Verbosely list directory contents ('ls -l -b')
<code>vdir</code>	Verbosely list directory contents ('ls -l -b')
<code>vi</code>	Text Editor
<code>vmstat</code>	Report virtual memory statistics
w	
<code>w</code>	Show who is logged on and what they are doing
<code>wait</code>	Wait for a process to complete •
<code>watch</code>	Execute/display a program periodically
<code>wc</code>	Print byte, word, and line counts
<code>whereis</code>	Search the user's \$path, man pages and source files for a program
<code>which</code>	Search the user's \$path for a program file
<code>while</code>	Execute commands
<code>who</code>	Print all usernames currently logged in
<code>whoami</code>	Print the current user id and name ('id -un')
<code>wget</code>	Retrieve web pages or files via HTTP, HTTPS or FTP
<code>write</code>	Send a message to another user
x	
<code>xargs</code>	Execute utility, passing constructed argument list(s)
<code>xdg-open</code>	Open a file or URL in the user's preferred application.
<code>xz</code>	Compress or decompress .xz and .lzma files
<code>yes</code>	Print a string until interrupted
<code>zip</code>	Package and compress (archive) files.
<code>.</code>	Run a command script in the current shell
<code>!!</code>	Run the last command again
<code>###</code>	Comment / Remark

Commands marked • are bash *built-ins*

Many commands particularly the Core Utils are also available under alternate [shells](#) (C shell, Korn shell etc).

More bash commands: [Linux Command Directory](#) from O'Reilly, GNU [CoreUtils](#).

[SS64 bash discussion forum](#)

[Links to other Sites, books etc](#)