

Day-10 Explore the different methods to get help from the linux environment.

LIST option

The man command is the primary way to access detailed documentation for most commands and utilities.

Usage: man [command]

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~/nithesh]
$ man ls
```

--help or -h option

Most commands support a --help or -h option that provides a quick summary of usage and options.

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~/nithesh]
$ ls --help
Usage: ls [OPTION]... [FILE]...
List information about the FILEs (the current directory by default).
Sort entries alphabetically if none of -cftuvSUX nor --sort is specified.

Mandatory arguments to long options are mandatory for short options too.
  -a, --all                        do not ignore entries starting with .
  -A, --almost-all                do not list implied . and ..
      --author                    with -l, print the author of each file
  -b, --escape                    print C-style escapes for nongraphic characters
      --block-size=SIZE           with -l, scale sizes by SIZE when printing them;
                                  e.g., '--block-size=M'; see SIZE format below
  -B, --ignore-backups            do not list implied entries ending with ~
  -C                              list entries by columns
      --color[=WHEN]             color the output WHEN; more info below
  -d, --directory                list directories themselves, not their contents
  -D, --dired                     generate output designed for Emacs' dired mode
  -f                              list all entries in directory order
  -F, --classify[=WHEN]          append indicator (one of */=>@|) to entries WHEN
      --file-type                likewise, except do not append '*'
      --format=WORD               across -X, commas -m, horizontal -x, long -l,
                                  single-column -1, verbose -l, vertical -C
```

info pages

The info command provides more comprehensive and structured documentation than man pages for some GNU utilities.

```
Next: Introduction, Up: (dir)
grep
****
'grep' prints lines that contain a match for one or more patterns.

This manual is for version 3.11 of GNU Grep.

This manual is for 'grep', a pattern matching engine.

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Introduction.
Command-line options, environment, exit status.
Regular Expressions.
Examples.
Performance tuning.
Reporting Bugs.
License terms for this manual.
Combined index.
```

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whatis command

The `whatis` command gives a very brief one-line description of a command.

Usage: `whatis [command]`

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~/nithesh]
$ whatis grep
grep (1)          - print lines that match patterns
```

apropos command

The `apropos` command searches the manual page names and descriptions for a keyword.

Usage: `apropos [keyword]`

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~/nithesh]
$ apropos "list files"
ofm2opl (1)      - convert Omega and TeX font-metric files to property-list files
opl2ofm (1)      - convert Omega and TeX property-list files to font-metric files
pltotf (1)       - convert property list files to TeX font metric (tfm) format
```