



1.12 Copying a file using cp command

We use the cp command to copy a file in the Linux shell. To copy a folder with its contents recursively use the cp command with the -r flag. We use the cp file_to_copy new_location format. In the example below, we are copying the hello.txt to hello2.txt.

```
$ cp hello.txt hello2.txt
$ ls -l
-rw-rw-r--. 1 fedora fedora 75 Jun 25 04:47 hello2.txt
-rw-rw-r--. 1 fedora fedora 75 Jun 25 04:33 hello.txt
```

In another example, I will copy the file passwordauthno.png from the Pictures directory in my home directory to the current directory.

```
$ cp ~/Pictures/passwordauthno.png .
```

In the following example, I will be copying the images directory (and everything inside it) from the Downloads directory under home to the /tmp/ directory.

```
$ cp -r ~/Downloads/images /tmp/
```

