

Linux 101: Comprehensive Beginner's Guide ~ OBEDPoP
please refer for tutorial: <https://academy.tcm-sec.com/p/linux-101>

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Introduction to Linux

What is Linux?

- Open-source Unix-like operating system kernel
- Created by Linus Torvalds in 1991
- Typically packaged as a Linux distribution (Ubuntu, Fedora, Debian, etc.)

Linux vs Windows

- Free and open-source vs proprietary
- Command-line focused vs GUI focused
- Better stability and security
- More customizable

Linux Distributions

- ****Debian-based****: Ubuntu, Mint, Kali Linux
- ****Red Hat-based****: Fedora, CentOS, RHEL
- ****Arch-based****: Manjaro, EndeavourOS
- ****Others****: Slackware, openSUSE

Getting Started

- Terminal/Shell: Interface to interact with Linux
- Bash (Bourne Again Shell): Default shell in most distributions

Linux Filesystem Hierarchy

Directory	Purpose
``/``	Root directory
``/bin``	Essential user binaries
``/etc``	System configuration files
``/home``	User home directories
``/var``	Variable data (logs, databases)
``/tmp``	Temporary files
``/usr``	User programs and utilities
``/lib``	System libraries

```
| `/boot` | Boot loader files |
| `/dev` | Device files |
| `/proc` | Process information |
| `/opt` | Optional/third-party software |
| `/root` | Root user's home directory |
| `/sbin` | System administration binaries |
```

Basic Commands

Navigation

- `pwd` - Print working directory
- `cd` - Change directory
- `ls` - List directory contents
 - `ls -l` - Long listing format
 - `ls -a` - Show hidden files
- `tree` - Display directory structure as tree

File Operations

- `touch` - Create empty file
- `cat` - Display file content
- `less`/`more` - View file page by page
- `cp` - Copy files/directories
- `mv` - Move/rename files
- `rm` - Remove files
 - `rm -r` - Remove directories recursively
- `mkdir` - Create directory
- `rmdir` - Remove empty directory
- `find` - Search for files
 - `find / -name "filename"`

System Information

- `uname -a` - System information
- `df -h` - Disk space usage
- `free -h` - Memory usage
- `uptime` - System uptime and load average
- `top`/`htop` - Process viewer

File Permissions

Understanding Permissions

- Three permission types:
 - `r` (read)
 - `w` (write)
 - `x` (execute)
- Three permission groups:
 - `user` (owner)
 - `group`
 - `others`

Viewing Permissions

```
```bash
```

```
ls -l
```

```
Output: -rwxr-xr-- 1 user group 2048 Jan 1 10:00 file.txt
```

```
```
```

- First character: file type (- for regular file, d for directory)

- Next 9 characters: permissions (rwxr-xr--)

Changing Permissions

- `chmod` - Change file permissions
 - Symbolic: `chmod u+x file` (add execute for user)
 - Numeric: `chmod 755 file` (rwxr-xr-x)
- `chown` - Change file owner
 - `chown user:group file`
- `chgrp` - Change file group
 - `chgrp group file`

Special Permissions

- SUID (Set User ID): `chmod u+s file`
- SGID (Set Group ID): `chmod g+s file`
- Sticky Bit: `chmod +t directory`

User Management

User Accounts

- `/etc/passwd` - User account information
- `/etc/shadow` - Encrypted passwords
- `/etc/group` - Group information

Commands

- `useradd` - Add new user
- `usermod` - Modify user
- `userdel` - Delete user
- `passwd` - Change password
- `groupadd` - Add new group
- `groups` - Show user's groups
- `id` - Show user and group information

Sudo

- `sudo` - Execute command as superuser
- `/etc/sudoers` - Sudo configuration file
- `visudo` - Edit sudoers file safely

Process Management

Viewing Processes

- `ps` - Display current processes
 - `ps aux` - Show all processes
- `top` - Interactive process viewer
- `htop` - Enhanced process viewer (needs installation)

Managing Processes

- `kill` - Terminate process by PID
 - `kill -9 PID` - Force kill
- `killall` - Kill processes by name
- `pkill` - Kill processes by pattern
- `nice` - Run process with modified priority
- `renice` - Change priority of running process

Background/Foreground

- `&` - Run command in background

- `jobs` - List background jobs
- `fg` - Bring job to foreground
- `bg` - Continue stopped job in background
- `Ctrl+Z` - Suspend current job
- `Ctrl+C` - Terminate current job

Package Management

Debian/Ubuntu (APT)

- `apt update` - Update package list
- `apt upgrade` - Upgrade installed packages
- `apt install package` - Install package
- `apt remove package` - Remove package
- `apt search term` - Search for package
- `apt list --installed` - List installed packages

Red Hat/CentOS (YUM/DNF)

- `yum update` or `dnf update`
- `yum install package` or `dnf install package`
- `yum remove package` or `dnf remove package`
- `yum search term` or `dnf search term`

Arch Linux (Pacman)

- `pacman -Syu` - Update system
- `pacman -S package` - Install package
- `pacman -R package` - Remove package
- `pacman -Ss term` - Search for package

Snap/Flatpak (Universal)

- `snap install package`
- `flatpak install package`

Text Processing

Viewing Files

- `cat` - Display entire file
- `less`/`more` - View file page by page
- `head` - Show first lines
- `tail` - Show last lines
- `tail -f` - Follow file changes

Searching

- `grep` - Search text patterns
- `grep "pattern" file`
- `grep -r "pattern" /dir` - Recursive search
- `find` - Search for files

Editing

- `nano` - Simple text editor
- `vim`/`vi` - Powerful text editor
- `sed` - Stream editor
- `awk` - Text processing language

File Comparison

- `diff` - Compare files line by line

- `cmp` - Compare files byte by byte
- `comm` - Compare sorted files

Networking

Basic Commands

- `ping` - Test network connectivity
- `ifconfig`/`ip` - Network interface configuration
- `netstat` - Network statistics
- `ss` - Socket statistics
- `traceroute`/`tracert` - Trace network path
- `dig`/`nslookup` - DNS lookup
- `hostname` - Show system hostname
- `wget`/`curl` - Download files

SSH

- `ssh user@host` - Connect to remote host
- `scp` - Secure copy
 - `scp file user@host:/path`
- `ssh-keygen` - Generate SSH keys
- `ssh-copy-id` - Copy SSH key to remote host

Firewall

- `ufw` (Uncomplicated Firewall)
 - `ufw enable`
 - `ufw allow port`
- `iptables` - Advanced firewall configuration

Shell Scripting Basics

Script Structure

```
``bash
#!/bin/bash
# This is a comment
echo "Hello, World!"
```
```

### ### Variables

```
``bash
name="Linux"
echo "Hello, $name"
```
```

Input

```
``bash
read -p "Enter your name: " username
echo "Hello, $username"
```
```

### ### Conditionals

```
``bash
if [$age -gt 18]; then
 echo "Adult"
else
 echo "Minor"
fi
```

```
fi
```
```

Loops

```
```bash
```

```
For loop
```

```
for i in {1..5}; do
```

```
 echo "Number: $i"
```

```
done
```

```
While loop
```

```
count=1
```

```
while [$count -le 5]; do
```

```
 echo "Count: $count"
```

```
 ((count++))
```

```
done
```

```
```
```

Functions

```
```bash
```

```
greet() {
```

```
 echo "Hello, $1"
```

```
}
```

```
greet "Alice"
```

```
```
```

```
---
```

System Monitoring

Performance

- `top`/`htop` - Process monitoring
- `vmstat` - Virtual memory statistics
- `iostat` - CPU and I/O statistics
- `sar` - System activity reporter
- `dmesg` - Kernel messages

Disk Usage

- `df -h` - Filesystem disk usage
- `du -h` - Directory space usage
- `ncdu` - Interactive disk usage viewer

Logs

- `/var/log/` - System log directory
- `journalctl` - Systemd journal logs
- `tail -f /var/log/syslog` - Follow system log

```
---
```

Services and Daemons

Systemd (Modern Systems)

- `systemctl start service`
- `systemctl stop service`
- `systemctl restart service`
- `systemctl status service`
- `systemctl enable service`
- `systemctl disable service`
- `systemctl list-units --type=service`

SysV Init (Older Systems)

- `service service start`
- `service service stop`
- `service service status`

Cron Jobs

Scheduling Tasks

- `crontab -e` - Edit user's cron jobs
- `crontab -l` - List cron jobs
- `crontab -r` - Remove all cron jobs

Cron Syntax

```

\* \* \* \* \* command

- - - - -

| | | | |

| | | | +----- Day of week (0 - 6) (Sunday=0)

| | | +----- Month (1 - 12)

| | +----- Day of month (1 - 31)

| +----- Hour (0 - 23)

+----- Minute (0 - 59)

```

Examples

```

```
0 * * * * /path/to/script.sh # Every hour
30 3 * * * /backup.sh # 3:30 AM daily
0 0 * * 0 /weekly-report.sh # Midnight every Sunday
```

```

SSH and Remote Access

Basic SSH

```bash

ssh username@remote\_host

ssh -p port\_number username@remote\_host

```

Key Authentication

1. Generate key pair: `ssh-keygen -t rsa`
2. Copy public key: `ssh-copy-id username@remote_host`
3. Disable password login (in `/etc/ssh/sshd_config`):

```

PasswordAuthentication no

```

SCP (Secure Copy)

```bash

scp file.txt user@remote:/path/to/destination

scp user@remote:/path/to/file.txt /local/destination

```

SSH Config

Edit `~/ssh/config` for easy connections:

```

```
Host myserver
 HostName server.example.com
 User username
 Port 2222
 IdentityFile ~/.ssh/id_rsa
```

```

Basic Troubleshooting

Common Issues

1. **Permission denied**: Check file permissions and ownership
2. **Command not found**: Check PATH or install package
3. **No space left on device**: Check with `df -h`
4. **Process not responding**: Kill with `kill` or `kill -9`

Diagnostic Commands

- `dmesg` - Kernel messages
- `journalctl` - System logs
- `strace` - Trace system calls
- `lsof` - List open files

Recovery

- **Single user mode**: Boot with `init=/bin/bash`
- **Live CD**: Use for system recovery
- **fsck**: Filesystem check and repair

Conclusion

This guide covers fundamental Linux concepts and commands. To become proficient:

1. Practice regularly in a Linux environment
2. Read man pages (`man command`)
3. Explore advanced topics as you become comfortable
4. Join Linux communities for support

Remember: **Google is your friend** when you encounter problems! Most issues have been solved before and documented online.