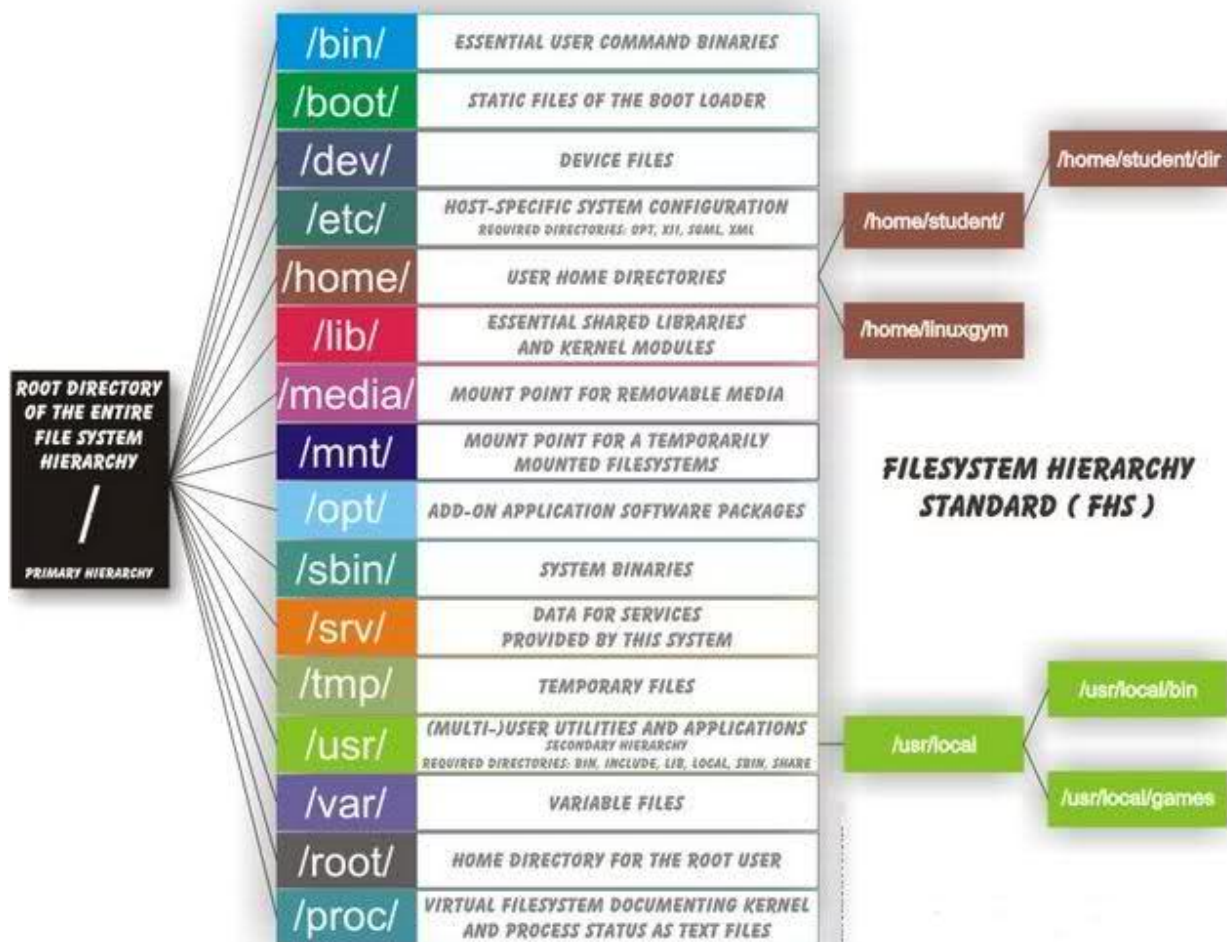


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Linux Directory Structure Explained

A standard **Linux** distribution follows the directory structure as provided below with Diagram and explanation.



Each of the above directory (which is a file, at the first place) contains important information, required for booting to device drivers, configuration files, etc. Describing briefly the purpose of each directory, we are starting hierarchically.

1. **/bin** : All the executable binary programs (file) required during booting, repairing, files required to run into single-user-mode, and other important, basic commands **viz.**, [cat](#), [du](#), [df](#), [tar](#), [rpm](#), [wc](#), [history](#), etc.
2. **/boot** : Holds important files during [boot-up process](#), including **Linux Kernel**.
3. **/dev** : Contains device files for all the hardware devices on the machine e.g., **cdrom**, **cpu**, etc
4. **/etc** : Contains Application's configuration files, **startup**, **shutdown**, **start**, **stop** script for every individual program.
5. **/home** : Home directory of the users. Every time a new user is created, a directory in the name of user is created within home directory which contains other directories like **Desktop**, **Downloads**, **Documents**, etc.
6. **/lib** : The Lib directory contains **kernel modules** and **shared library** images required to boot the system and run commands in root file system.
7. **/lost+found** : This Directory is installed during installation of **Linux**, useful for recovering files which may be broken due to unexpected **shut-down**.
8. **/media** : Temporary mount directory is created for removable devices viz., **media/cdrom**.
9. **/mnt** : Temporary mount directory for mounting file system.
10. **/opt** : Optional is abbreviated as opt. Contains third party application software. Viz., Java, etc.
11. **/proc** : A virtual and pseudo file-system which contains information about **running process** with a particular **Process-id** aka **pid**.
12. **/root** : This is the home directory of root user and should never be confused with '/'
13. **/run** : This directory is the only clean solution for **early-runtime-dir** problem.
14. **/sbin** : Contains binary executable programs, required by **System Administrator**, for **Maintenance**. Viz., [iptables](#), [fdisk](#), [ifconfig](#), swapon, reboot, etc.
15. **/srv** : Service is abbreviated as 'srv'. This directory contains server specific and service related files.
16. **/sys** : Modern Linux distributions include a **/sys** directory as a **virtual filesystem**, which stores and allows modification of the devices connected to the system.
17. **/tmp** : System's Temporary Directory, Accessible by users and root. Stores temporary files for **user** and **system**, till next boot.
18. **/usr** : Contains executable **binaries**, **documentation**, **source code**, **libraries** for second level program.
19. **/var** : Stands for variable. The contents of this file is expected to grow. This directory contains **log**, **lock**, **spool**, **mail** and **temp** files.