Creation of Hidden Files and Directories

Q. What is mean by hidden file?

Ans: Any file whose name start with dot is called hidden File

Q. What is mean by hidden directory?

Ans: Any directory whose name start with dot is called hidden directory

Q. Why we create hidden file or Directory?

Ans: If wan to hide the data in that case we create hidden file or directory

Example: All system files which are internally required by kernel are hidden files.

- How to Create hidden file?
- We can create hidden files just like normal files. only difference is file name should starts with dot.

Example 1: Creating an empty hidden file

```
touch .securefile1.txt
```

Above command will create an empty hidden file

Example 2: creating hidden file using cat command

```
cat > .securefile2.txt
```

Note 1: Even by using editors also we can create hidden files.

Note 2: command used to create hidden or normal file are same only difference is hidden file name start with dot.

Interconversion of Normal Files and Hidden Files

Based on our requirement, we can convert normal file as hidden file and hidden file as normal.

Example 1: Suppose We have F1.txt file and we want to convert it into hidden file then we can use mv command

```
mv F1.txt .F1.txt
```

Example 2: Suppose We have .F1.txt file and we want to convert it into normal file then we can use mv command

```
mv .F1.txt F1.txt
```

Similarly we can convert normal directory to hidden directory and hidden directory to normal directory.

mv Dir1 .Dir1 → normal to hidden directory conversion

mv .Dir1 Dir1 → hidden to normal directory conversion

Creation of Link Files

There are two types of link files
1) Soft link file
2) Hard link file

1) Soft Link File

-> Soft link is a pointer to another file.

-> It is just like windows shortcut

-> It is also called as symbolic link

-> To create soft link file we need to use ln command with
   -s option

Syntax

```
ln  -s  sourcefile_name softlink_File_name
```

soft

ln stands for link

Example : Create a soft link for F1.txt

```
ln -s F1.txt F1_soft_link
```

Here F1.txt is original File

F1_soft_link is soft link file

Note 1: If we delete soft link file then there is no impact on
original file

Note 2: If we delete original file then there is impact on soft link file.
we cannot perform operation on soft link file

Note 3: identification between normal file and soft link file is

when we use ls -l command to get long information of a files then in the out of permission column we have following difference

If file is normal then its first letter is hypen (-)

```
-rw-r--r-- 1 root   root        26 May  9 08:02 F11.txt
```

If file soft link file then its first letter is l

```
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root   root        7 May 14 08:58 F11_soft_link -> F11.txt
```