

# Linux Command Quick Reference

Command	Description
<b>Apt-get</b> Ex: <code>apt-get update</code>  <code>apt-get upgrade</code>  <code>apt-get install</code>  <code>apt-get remove</code> <code>apt-get purge</code> <code>apt-get autoremove</code>	Search for and install software packages Update is used to resynchronize the package index files from their sources. The indexes of available packages are fetched from the location(s) specified in /etc/apt/sources.list Upgrade is used to install the newest versions of all packages currently installed on the system from the sources enumerated in /etc/apt/sources.list Install is followed by one or more packages desired for installation or upgrading. Remove is used to remove package Purge is identical to remove except that packages are removed and purged (any configuration files are deleted too). Autoremove is used to remove packages that were automatically installed to satisfy dependencies for some package and that are no more needed.
<code>cat [filename]</code> Ex: <code>cat File1.txt</code> <code>File2.txt &gt;</code> <code>union.txt</code>	Display file's contents to the standard output device (usually your monitor). Concatenate two files, File1.txt and File2.txt into union.txt
<code>cd /directorypath</code> Ex: <code>cd ..</code> <code>cd</code>	Change to directory.  Move up one folder Back to your home folder
<code>chmod [options] mode filename</code>	Change a file's permissions.
<code>chown [options] filename</code>	Change who owns a file.
<code>clear</code>	Clear a command line screen/window for a fresh start.
<code>cp [options] source destination</code> Ex: <code>cp file1 file2</code> <code>cp files directory</code> <code>cp -R files</code> <code>directory</code>	Copy files and directories.  Copies a file to another file Copies a file to another directory, Copies a subdirectory and all its files to another directory.
<code>date [options]</code>	Display or set the system date and time.
<code>find [pathname] [expression]</code>	Search for files matching a provided pattern.
<code>ftp hostname</code>	Opens an FTP connection to the specified host, allowing files to be transferred.
<code>grep [options] pattern [filename]</code>	Search files or output for a particular pattern.

Ex: grep -a 'have a good day' example.txt	Search the file example.txt, including binary data (-a) for the string 'have a good day':
kill [options] pid	Stop a process. If the process refuses to stop, use kill -9 pid.
less [options] [filename]	View the contents of a file one page at a time.
ls [options] Ex: ls -a files ls -l files  ls -lR files	List directory contents.  The -a option lists hidden files as well as non-hidden files.  The -l option causes the list to include descriptive information, such as file size and modification date.  The -R option recursively lists the subdirectories of the specified directories.
man [command]	Display the help information for the specified command.
mkdir [options] directory mkdir -p directories	Create a new directory. The -p option causes creation of any parent directories needed to create a specified directory.
mv [options] source destination	Rename or move file(s) or directories.
passwd [name [password]]	Change the password or allow (for the system administrator) to change any password.
ps [options]	Display a snapshot of the currently running processes.
pwd	Display the pathname for the current directory.
rm [options] directory Ex: rm -r directory  rm -i files rm -f files	Remove (delete) file(s) and/or directories.  The -r option Deletes the specified files or recursively deletes all subdirectories of the specified files and directories.  The -i option causes the command to prompt for confirmation.  The -f option suppresses confirmation.
rmdir [options] directory Ex: rmdir -p directories	Delete empty directories.  The -p option deletes the empty directories along the specified path.
ssh [options] user@machine	Remotely log in to another Linux machine, over the network. Leave an ssh session by typing <b>exit</b> .
su [options] [user [arguments]]	Switch to another user account.
tail [options] [filename]	Display the last <i>n</i> lines of a file (the default is 10).
touch filename	Create an empty file with the specified name.
who [options]	Display who is logged on.