Linux Commands Cheat-Sheet

A list of different essential and non-essential commands that come in handy while working with linux systems.

Essential Commands

cd - Change directory
ls - list directory
cat - print content of a file to the console.
mkdir - make directory
rmdir - remove empty directory
rm - remove files/ directories
cp - copy files/ directory
mv - move files/ directory
ln - make hard or symbolic links
chown - change file owner and group
chmod - change file permissions
dd - convert and copy a file
df - report filesystem disk space usage
du - estimate disk space used by files and directories
tar - tar archiver
less - terminal pager
find - search files or directories
diff - compare files line by line
grep - print lines matching a pattern
sed - stream editor
awk - pattern scanning and processing language
dmesg - print or control the kernel ring buffer
lsblk - list block devices
mount - mount a filesystem
umount - unmount a filesystem
su - substitute user
kill - terminate a process

pgrep - look up processes by name or attributes
ps - show information about processes
free - display amount of free and used memory

Non-Essential Commands

alias - define or display aliases
type - print the type of a command
time - time a command
tee - read stdin and write to stdout and files
mktemp - make a temporary file or directory
mknod - create named pipe or device node
truncate - shrink or extend the size of a file
basenc - encoding input and output it
cut - print selected parts of line
tr - translate or delete characters
od - dump files in octal and oter formats
sort - sort lines
uniq - report or omit repeated lines
comm - compare two sorted files line by line
head - output the first part of files
join - join lines of two inputs on a common field
md5sum - calculate cryptography hash functions of inputs and output
sha256sum - same as md5sum
tail - output the last part of files
wc - print newline, word and byte count
strings - print printable characters ini binary files
column - columnate file, optionally pretty-printing in table with grid
xargs - combine or template arguments from stdin to invoke external command
iconv - convert character encodings
uudecode - encode file into email friendly text
file - guess file type
Reference