

# Linux



## Introduction to Linux

### Module 12: Other useful Linux commands



# Introduction to Linux



In this final module of the introduction to Linux, we will wrap up with some other Linux commands you may find useful.



# Date and Time



Being able to do things with date and time on a server is very useful.

Command	Comments
<b>date</b>	What is the current date, time and timezone
<b>date +%Y.%m.%d</b>	2020.05.01
<b>date +%Y.%m.%dT%T%Z</b>	2020.05.01T20:26:48UTC
<b>date +"%Y.%m.%dT%T.%N %Z"</b>	2020.05.01T20:26:48.259926157 UTC
<b>date +%Y.%m.%dT%T.%N%z</b>	2020.05.01T20:26:48.260981428+0000
<b>TODAY=`date +%Y.%m.%d` LOGFILE=~/\$USER.man.\$TODAY.log</b>	This allows you to use the date as part of the log file name – this is good practice as it will ensure you have a unique log file name each day and can easily identify which log file you wish to look at
<b>time man cat</b>	Time allows you to see how long it takes something to run – this is useful if you have written a script and want to see how long it takes to execute



# Date arithmetic



The date command can also let you do some arithmetic.

**date -d -1day**

Print the current date time but 1 day in the past (i.e., what was the date at this time yesterday)

**date -d -1hour**

Print the current datetime -1 hour

**date -d -1day +%Y.%m.%d**

Print yesterday's date



# The test command



The test command is used to do checks and comparisons.

Command	Comments
<b>test "cpt america" = "iron man" &amp;&amp; echo "same"</b>	This will not return anything because the comparison fails
<b>test "cpt america" = "iron man"    echo " not the same"</b>	This will return the output 'not the same' to the terminal because the first test fails
<b>test 5 -eq 7 &amp;&amp; echo "same"</b>	Similarly, you can use '-ge' to test greater than or equal to, '-gt' for greater than, '-le' for less than or equal to, '-lt' for less than, and '-ne' for not equal.
<b>test -d filename</b>	This will test if a given file is in a directory



# Some other final tips



The following will simply help when using Linux terminals.

**clear**

Running the clear command will clear your terminal view and leave the prompt at the top of the terminal screen. This is useful if you want to have a “fresh screen” to look at.

**Ctrl + z**

This sends a SIGSTOP to the foreground running process

**Ctrl + c**

This sends a SIGINT to the current running process – this waits for the process to end gracefully – i.e., a polite kill