Commands of Process Utilities and Disk Utilities Syntax.Output

If you work with computers, you need to understand process utilities and disk utilities. You'll learn the most common commands to help troubleshoot issues.
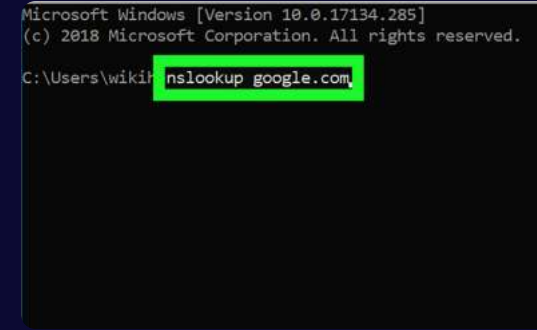
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Process Utilities

pstree

The pstree command shows a tree diagram of all running processes on the system.
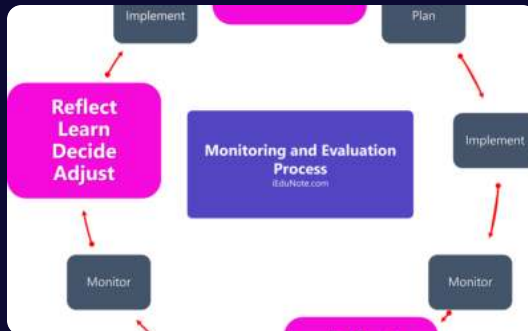

top

View and manage CPU and memory usage.

kill

Terminate a process that has become stuck or unresponsive.

watch

Keep an eye on a process to see how it develops, useful when modifying system configurations.

Disk Utilities

df

Displays all available free disk space on the system.

du

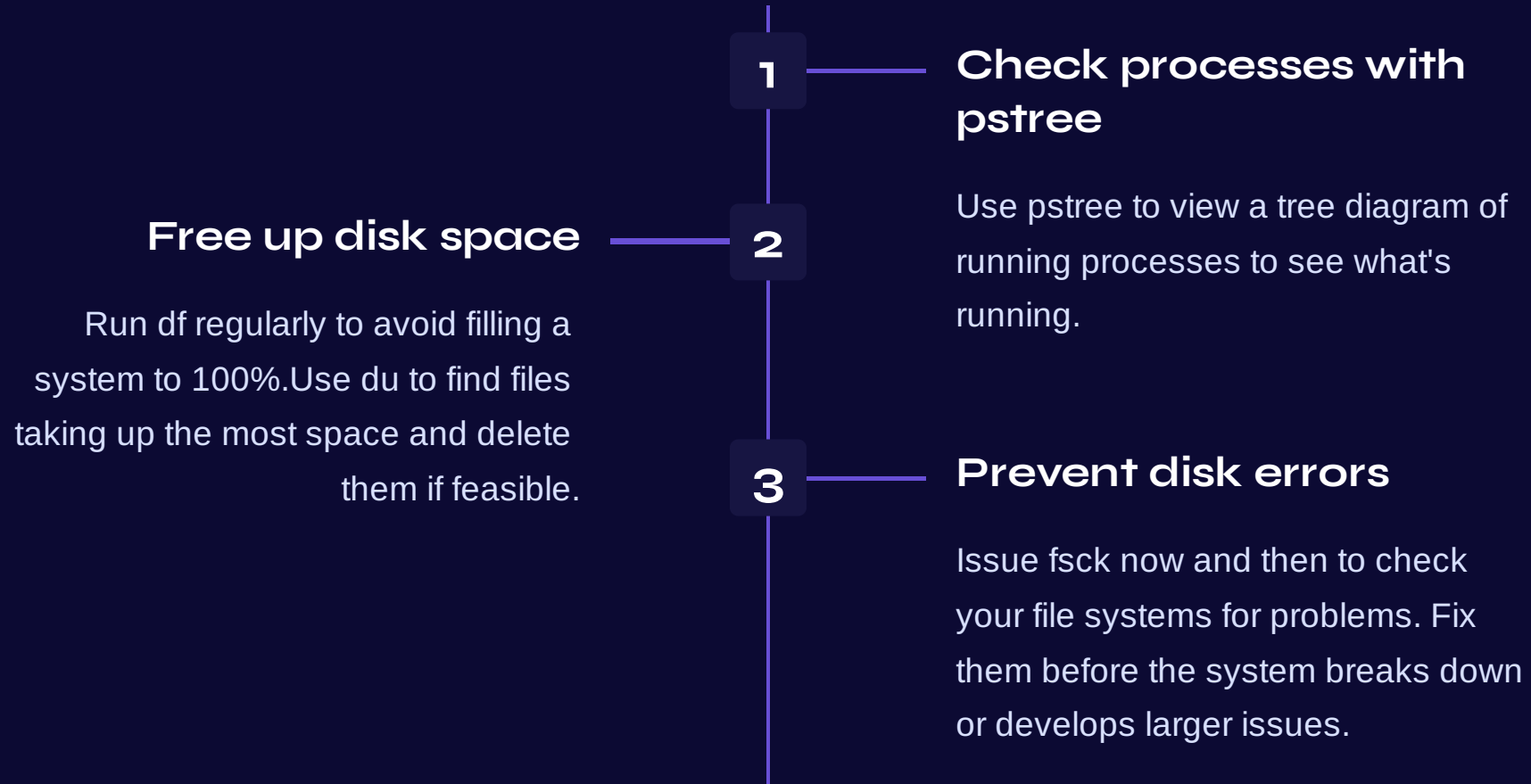Estimates the amount of disk space used by a directory and its contents.

fsck

Detects and repairs filesystem errors on disk.

smartctl

Control and monitor storage systems using metrics like temperature, wear rate, and error rate.

Findings and Results

1

Check processes with pstree

Use pstree to view a tree diagram of running processes to see what's running.

2

Free up disk space

Run df regularly to avoid filling a system to 100%.Use du to find files taking up the most space and delete them if feasible.

3

Prevent disk errors

Issue fsck now and then to check your file systems for problems. Fix them before the system breaks down or develops larger issues.

Examples of Process Utility Output

pstree output

A tree diagram of all running processes is displayed, showing dependencies between them and the parent process.

top output

A live updating table with system resource usage data, ordered by the process that uses the most resources.

kill output

Returns 'Terminated' if the process has been successfully terminated. No output if it could not be stopped.

Examples of Disk Utility Output

1 ──── **df output**

The file directory (like /home) shown with results measuring size, used space, available space, and the capacity of all file systems in blocks.

du output ──── **2**

Measures disk space used by directories and returns the size of the directory scanned with byte count data.

3 ──── **fsck output**

If errors were fixed, output confirms the changes made. It reports when the disk is healthy or needs attention.