LINUX BASIC COMMANDS

1. **pwd** — When you first open the terminal, you are in the home directory of your user. To know which directory you are in, you can use the **“pwd”** command. It gives us the absolute path, which means the path that starts from the root. The root is the base of the Linux file system. It is denoted by a forward slash(/). The user directory is usually something like "/home/username".

2. **ls** — Use the **"ls"** command to know what files are in the directory you are in. You can see all the hidden files by using the command **“ls -a”**.

3. **cd** — Use the **"cd"** command to go to a directory. For example, if you are in the home folder, and you want to go to the “ABC”folder, then you can type in **“cd ABC”**.

4. **mkdir**— Use the **mkdir** command when you need to create a folder or a directory. For example, if you want to make a directory called “ABC”, then you can type **“mkdir ABC**”. But, if you want to create a directory named “ABC Hacking”, then you can type “mkdir **ABC\ Hacking**”.

5. **rmdir** — Use **rmdir** to delete a directory. But **rmdir** can only be used to delete an empty directory. To delete a directory containing files, use **rm**.

6. **rm -** Use the **rm** command to delete files and directories. Use "**rm -r**" to delete just the directory. It deletes both the folder and the files it contains when using only the **rm** command.
7. **touch** — The **touch** command is used to create a file. It can be anything, from an empty txt file to an empty zip file. For example, “**touch new.txt**”.

8. **man & --help** — To know more about a command and how to use it, use the **man** command. It shows the manual pages of the command. For example, “**man cd**” shows the manual pages of the **cd** command. Typing in

the command name and the argument helps it show which ways the command can be used (e.g., **cd –help**).

9. **cp** — Use the **cp** command to copy files through the command line. It takes two arguments: The first is the location of the file to be copied, the second is where to copy.

10. **mv** — Use the **mv** command to move files through the command line. We can also use the **mv** command to rename a file. For example, if we want to rename the file "**text**" to "**new**", we can use "**mv text new**". It takes the two arguments, just like the **cp** command.

11. **locate** — The **locate** command is used to locate a file in a Linux system, just like the search command in Windows. This command is useful when you don't know where a file is saved or the actual name of the file. Using the -i argument with the command helps to ignore the case (it doesn't matter if it is uppercase or lowercase). So, if you want a file that has the word "hello", it gives the list of all the files in your Linux system containing the word "hello" when you type in "**locate -i hello**". If you remember two words, you can separate them using an asterisk (*). For example, to locate a file containing the words "hello" and "this", you can use the command "**locate -i *hello*this".**

12. **cat** — Use the **cat** command to display the contents of a file. It is usually used to easily view programs.

13. **nano, vi— nano** and **vi** are already installed text editors in the Linux command line. The **nano** command is a good text editor that denotes keywords with color and can recognize most languages. And **vi** is simpler than **nano**. You can create a new file or modify a file using this editor. For example, if you need to make a new file named **"check.txt**", you can create it by using the command "**nano check.txt**". You can save your files after editing by using the sequence Ctrl+X, then Y (or N for no).

14. **sudo** — A widely used command in the Linux command line, **sudo** stands for "SuperUser Do". So, if you want any command to be done with administrative or root privileges, you can use the **sudo** command. For example, if you want to edit a file like viz. **password.conf**, which needs root permissions, you can use the command – **sudo nano password.conf**. You can enter the root command line using the command "**sudo bash**", then type in your user password. You can also use the command "**su**" to do this, but you need to set a root password before that. For that, you can use the command "**sudo passwd**"(not misspelled, it is **passwd**). Then type in the new root password.

15. **ping** — Use **ping** to check your connection to a server. Wikipedia says, "**Ping** is a computer network administration software utility used to test the reachability of a host on an Internet Protocol (IP) network". Simply, when you type in, for example, "**ping google.com**", it checks if it can connect to the server and come back. It measures this round-trip time and gives you the details about it. The use of this command for simple users like us is to check your internet connection. If it pings the Google server (in this case), you can confirm that your internet connection is active!

16. **hostname** — Use **hostname** to know your name in your host or network. Basically, it displays your hostname and IP address. Just typing "**hostname**" gives the output. Typing in "**hostname -A**" gives you your IP address in your network.

17. **df** — Use the **df** command to see the available disk space in each of the partitions in your system. You can just type in **df** in the command line and you can see each mounted partition and their used/available space in % and in KBs. If you want it shown in megabytes, you can use the command "**df -m**".