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Cat command

Definition

The cat command is used to display the contents of a file. The word cat is shortened for concentrate which is the intended use of this command

Usage

`cat` + `option` + `files to display`

Examples

- Display the contents of a file located in the pwd
    - `cat todo.lst`
- Display the content of a file using absolute path
    - `cat ~/Documents/todo.lst`

Tac Command

Definition

The tac command is used for displaying the content of a file in reverse order.

Usage

`tac + option + files to display`

Examples

- Display the content of a file located in pwd
    - `tac todo.md`
- Display the content of a file using absolute path
    - `tac ~/Documents/todo.md`

Head command

Definition

The head command displays the top N number of lines of a given file. By default it prints the first 10 lines.

Usage

`head + option + files`

Examples

- Display the first 10 lines of a file

- head ~/Documents/Book/dracula.txt
- Display the first 5 lines of a file
  - head -5 ~/Documents/Book/dracula.txt

Tail command

Definition

The tail command displays the last N number of lines of a given file. It prints the last 10 lines by default

Usage

```
tail + option + file
```

Examples

- Display the last 10 lines of a file
  - tail ~/Documents/Book/dracula.txt
- Display the last 5 lines of a file
  - tail -5 ~/Documents/Book/dracula/txt

Cut command

Definition

The cut command is used to extract a specific section of each line of a file and display it to the screen

Usage

```
cut + option + file's
```

Examples

- Display a list of all the users in your system
  - cut -d ':' -f1 /etc/passwd
- Display a list of all the users in your system with their login shell
  - cut -d ':' -f1,7 /etc/passwd

Sort command

Definition

The sort command is used for sorting files. The sort command support sorting alphabetically, in reverse order, by number, and by month

Usage

```
sort + option + file
```

Examples

- Sort a file and save the output to a new file
    - `sort -o sorted.lst users.lst`
- Sort a file in reverse order
    - `sort -r users.txt`

WC command

Definition

The wc command is used for printing the number of lines

Usage

`wc + option + files's`

Examples

- Display the number of characters in a file
    - `wc -m users.txt`
- Display the number of lines in a file
    - `wc -l users.txt`

Diff Command

Definition

The diff command compares files and displays the differences between them

Usage

`diff + option + file1 +file2`

Examples

- Display the difference between two files
    - `diff cars.csv cars-backup.csv`
- Display the difference between two files ina column format
    - `diff -y cars.csv cars-backup.csv`

Grep Command

Definition

The grep command is used to search text in a given file.

Usage

`grep + option + search criteria +files`

Examples

- Search any line that contains the work 'dracula' in the given file
  - `grep 'dracula' ~/Documents/dracula.txt`
- Search for all the lines that do not contain the word 'war'
  - `grep -v 'war' ~/Documents/Books/war-and-peach.txt`