

# Top 50 Linux command

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## 1. Navigation & Workspace Setup

- `pwd` : Displays the full path of the folder you are currently in.
    - Example: `pwd`
  - `ls` : Lists all files and folders in your current location.
    - Example: `ls -ahl` (Lists all files, including hidden ones, in human-readable sizes).
  - `cd` : Changes your current directory to a new path.
    - Example: `cd ~/projects/ReactApp`
  - `mkdir` : Creates a new folder.
    - Example: `mkdir -p src/components` (Creates the parent folder and sub-folder at once).
  - `touch` : Creates a new empty file.
    - Example: `touch server.js`
  - `alias` : Creates a custom shortcut for a long command.
    - Example: `alias gs='git status'`
  - `clear` : Wipes the terminal screen clean for a fresh start.
    - Example: `clear`
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## 2. File Manipulation & Management

- `cp` : Copies files or directories from one place to another.
    - Example: `cp main.cpp main_backup.cpp`
  - `mv` : Moves or renames a file or folder.
    - Example: `mv old_name.js new_name.js`
  - `rm` : Deletes files or folders (use with caution).
    - Example: `rm -rf node_modules/` (Forcefully deletes a folder and everything inside).
  - `ln` : Creates a "symbolic link" or shortcut to another file.
    - Example: `ln -s /var/www/html site_link`
  - `tar` : Compresses or extracts archived files.
    - Example: `tar -xvf source_code.tar.gz`
  - `zip` : Compresses files into a .zip format.
    - Example: `zip -r backup.zip ./src`
  - `unzip` : Extracts files from a .zip archive.
    - Example: `unzip project.zip`
  - `chmod` : Changes file permissions (Read, Write, Execute).
    - Example: `chmod 755 run.sh` (Makes a script executable).
  - `chown` : Changes the owner or group of a file.
    - Example: `sudo chown vishal:devs app.log`
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## 🔍 3. Text Processing & Searching (The SDE Power Tools)

- `cat` : Prints the entire content of a file to the screen.
  - *Example:* `cat .env`
- `less` : Allows you to scroll through large files without loading the whole thing.
  - *Example:* `less huge_log_file.log`
- `grep` : Searches for specific text inside files.
  - *Example:* `grep -r "API_KEY" .` (Searches for "API\_KEY" in all files in the current folder).
- `find` : Locates files based on name, size, or time.
  - *Example:* `find src/ -name *.cpp`
- `head` : Shows the very beginning of a file.
  - *Example:* `head -n 5 index.js` (Shows the first 5 lines).
- `tail` : Shows the end of a file (essential for debugging logs).
  - *Example:* `tail -f access.log` (Updates the screen in real-time as the log grows).
- `diff` : Compares two files line by line and shows what is different.
  - *Example:* `diff version1.cpp version2.cpp`
- `sed` : Automatically finds and replaces text in a file.
  - *Example:* `sed -i 's/localhost/127.0.0.1/g' config.js`
- `awk` : Used for extracting specific columns or data from text files.
  - *Example:* `awk '{print $1, $3}' data.txt`
- `sort` : Alphabetizes or numerically orders the lines in a file.
  - *Example:* `sort names.txt`
- `wc` : Counts the number of lines, words, or characters.
  - *Example:* `wc -l main.cpp` (Tells you how many lines of code are in the file).
- `echo` : Prints text to the terminal or writes it to a file.
  - *Example:* `echo "Build Successful" >> build.log`
- `tee` : Saves output to a file while also showing it on the screen.
  - *Example:* `ls | tee file_list.txt`

## ⚡ 4. System Monitoring & Performance

- `top` : A live task manager showing CPU and Memory usage.
  - *Example:* `top`
- `htop` : A more colorful, user-friendly version of `top`.
  - *Example:* `htop`
- `ps` : Lists the programs (processes) currently running on your system.
  - *Example:* `ps aux | grep node` (Finds all running Node.js processes).
- `kill` : Stops a running program using its ID (PID).
  - *Example:* `kill -9 1234` (Forcefully stops process 1234).
- `df` : Shows how much disk space is left on your drives.
  - *Example:* `df -h`

- `du` : Shows how much space a specific folder is taking up.
    - *Example:* `du -sh ./node_modules`
  - `free` : Displays how much RAM memory is available.
    - *Example:* `free -h`
  - `uptime` : Shows how long the system has been running since the last reboot.
    - *Example:* `uptime`
  - `history` : Lists all the commands you have typed in the past.
    - *Example:* `history 20` (Shows your last 20 commands).
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## 5. Networking & Remote Access

- `ssh` : Securely logs you into a remote server.
    - *Example:* `ssh vishal@remote-server-ip`
  - `scp` : Securely copies files from your PC to a remote server.
    - *Example:* `scp build.zip vishal@server:/var/www/`
  - `ping` : Checks if a website or server is online.
    - *Example:* `ping google.com`
  - `curl` : Downloads files or tests API endpoints from the terminal.
    - *Example:* `curl -I https://google.com` (Gets the header info of the site).
  - `wget` : Downloads a file directly from a web link.
    - *Example:* `wget https://example.com/installer.sh`
  - `ip a` : Shows your local and public IP addresses.
    - *Example:* `ip a`
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## 6. Administration & Utilities

- `sudo` : Runs a command with administrative ("Root") permissions.
  - *Example:* `sudo apt update`
- `apt / yum` : Package managers used to install new software.
  - *Example:* `sudo apt install g++`
- `whoami` : Tells you which user account you are currently using.
  - *Example:* `whoami`
- `uname` : Displays information about the Linux system you are on.
  - *Example:* `uname -a`
- `passwd` : Changes the password for a user.
  - *Example:* `passwd vishal`
- `date` : Shows the current system time and date.
  - *Example:* `date`
- `man` : Opens the "manual" (instructions) for any other command.
  - *Example:* `man grep`