

1 Common tasks

start browser	click the firefox icon near the top left corner
start a terminal with a shell	in the main menu select Applications>Accessories>Terminal
cut and paste text	select text with the mouse, move mouse to paste location and press the middle button (wheel) or: select text, Ctrl-C, cursor to paste location, Ctrl-V
extract archive	if downloading, browser opens it in archive manager otherwise use the <i>unzip</i> shell command
unblock a blocked shell	Ctrl-Z followed by the <i>bg</i> command if you want the program to continue running at the background
start a graphical program in the shell without blocking the shell	add the & symbol after the command

2 Useful terminal commands and tricks

TAB (above Caps Lock)	try to auto-complete a partially typed name of executable, folder or file
↑, ↓	browse previous commands
> <i>nautilus . &</i>	open a graphical filesystem explorer for the current folder
> <i>cd</i>	switch to your home folder (directory)
> <i>cd lab1</i>	switch to a folder relative to the current one (adapt for your desired directory path, remember to use TAB)
> <i>cd ..</i>	switch to a folder one level higher
> <i>ls -lF</i>	show detailed list of contents in the current folder
> <i>unzip lab1.zip</i>	extract an archive to the current folder (adapt for your archive name)
> <i>zip -r dir.zip dir</i>	create or update an archive containing the entire folder <i>dir</i> (adapt for your folder and archive name)
> <i>baobab &</i>	graphically analyse the disk usage of files in your home folder and identify the big ones that you do not need any more
Ctrl-C	kill a program that blocks the shell
Ctrl-Z	pause a program that blocks the shell
<i>bg</i>	restart a paused program at the background (not blocking the shell)
<i>fg</i>	restart a paused program in the foreground (blocking the shell)