Welcome to OopisOS v4.0

So, What Is This Thing?

You've got OopisOS. At its core, it's a self-contained operating system that runs entirely on your local machine. That's the most important part. There's no cloud, no server, no telemetry. All your files, your users, and your data are stored locally and only locally.

The whole OS is designed to be truly portable. You can stick it on a USB drive and carry your entire environment with you, leaving nothing behind on the host machine.

What It Actually Does: The Features That Matter

Forget the buzzwords. Here's what you can actually do with it.

- Local AI, Your Rules: The gemini command is your gateway to AI. You can chat with local models you run yourself via Ollama or LM Studio, or use the default provider which is smart enough to use other commands to answer questions about your files. It's a tool, not a gimmick.
- A Real Filesystem (in a Box): It's a persistent virtual filesystem running on IndexedDB, but you don't need to care about that. What you care about are the commands, and you've got the standard toolkit: 1s, cp, mv, rm, find, zip—the works.
- A Shell That Doesn't Suck: It's a proper command-line environment. You get command history, tab-completion, piping (|), redirection (>), background tasks (&), and environment variables. You can even customize your prompt. All the basics you'd expect are here.
- Actual Multi-User Security: You can create users (useradd) and groups (groupadd), manage file permissions (chmod, chown), and escalate privileges correctly with sudo. This isn't just for show; permissions are enforced everywhere.
- A Suite of Built-in Apps: There's a set of useful, full-screen applications for when the command line isn't enough:
 - o edit: A text editor with live Markdown preview.
 - o paint: A character-based art studio. Yes, really.
 - o chidi: An Al tool for analyzing collections of documents.
 - adventure: A surprisingly powerful engine for playing and building text adventure games.
 - basic: A complete IDE for the BASIC programming language.
 - log: A personal, timestamped journaling system.

Command-Line Crash Course

You're going to live in the terminal. You might as well get good at it. Here are the absolute essentials. Type man [command] if you need more than this.

Command	What It Really Does				
help [cmd]	Shows you a list of commands or the basic use of one. Start here.				
ls	Lists what's in a directory. Use it constantly.				
cd [directory]	Changes your current directory. Your primary way of moving around.				
pwd	"Print Working Directory." Shows you where you are.				
cat [file]	Dumps a file's entire content to the screen. Good for a quick look.				
mkdir [dir_name]	Makes a new, empty directory.				
touch [file]	Creates an empty file or updates its timestamp.				
mv [source] [dest]	Moves or renames a file. Same command, different result based on $\ensuremath{\mbox{dest}}.$				
<pre>cp [source] [dest]</pre>	Copies a file.				
rm [item]	Deletes a file or directory. There is no trash can. This is permanent.				
grep [pattern] [file]	Finds lines containing a text pattern within a file. Incredibly useful.				

The Application Suite: Tools for Getting Things Done

These aren't your typical bloated applications. They are focused, full-screen tools for specific jobs.

- **explore** [path]: For when you're tired of 1s and cd. This gives you a graphical, two-pane file explorer. A directory tree on the left, file listing on the right. It's an intuitive way to see the lay of the land. Use it, get your bearings, then get back to the real work in the terminal.
- edit [file]: Your workhorse for text. It's smarter than cat and more powerful than echo. It handles plain text, but its real value is the live preview for Markdown and HTML (Ctrl+P). Stop guessing what your markup looks like and just see it.
- paint [file.oopic]: Look, sometimes you need to draw. This is a character-based art studio. It's got a canvas, colors, and tools. You can make icons, title screens for your scripts, or maps for the adventure engine. It's surprisingly capable. Don't knock it 'til you've tried it.
- **chidi** [path]: The "Al Librarian". Point it at a directory of Markdown files, and it gives you a dedicated interface to read and analyze them. You can ask it to summarize a document or find specific information across the entire collection. It's for deep-diving into a known set of files, unlike gemini which is for general discovery.
- adventure [file.json]: A data-driven text adventure engine. You can play the built-in game or, more importantly, create your own worlds by defining rooms, items, and logic in a JSON file. It's a powerful way to see how a complex, stateful application works within the OS.
- **gemini** "**rompt>**": This is your Al multitool. By default, it's smart enough to use other commands (ls, cat, grep) to answer questions about your files. Or, you can point it at a local model (-p ollama) for direct chat. It bridges the gap between natural language and shell commands.
- basic [file.bas]: A full IDE for the BASIC programming language. It's a throwback, but it's a
 complete, sandboxed environment where you can LIST, RUN, SAVE, and LOAD old-school,
 line-numbered programs. It even has a secure bridge to interact with the main OS (SYS_CMD,
 SYS_READ, SYS_WRITE) so your BASIC programs are still subject to the system's permission
 model.
- log: A simple, secure journaling system. It creates timestamped Markdown files in ~/.journal/. The app gives you a timeline and an editor, but at the end of the day, they're just text files. You can grep them, cat them, or back them up like anything else.

Advanced Course: How to Actually Control the Thing

Now we're talking. These are the tools for administrators and people who want to make the system their own.

Shell Customization: The PS1 Variable

Your command prompt doesn't have to be boring. The PS1 environment variable controls its appearance. Use set to change it.

Sequence	What It Does
\u	Your username.
\h	The hostname (0opis0s).
\w	The full path of the current working directory.
\W	Just the basename of the current directory.
\\$	A # if you're root, otherwise a \$.

Example: set PS1="[\u@\h \W]\\$ "

This changes the prompt to [Guest@OopisOs ~]\$.

Privilege Escalation: sudo and visudo

Don't run as root all the time. It's stupid and dangerous. When you need administrative power, borrow it with sudo.

- **sudo** [command]: Executes a single command with root privileges. You'll be prompted for *your own* password, not the root password. The system checks if you're allowed to run the command based on the /etc/sudoers file.
- **visudo**: The *only* way you should edit /etc/sudoers. It locks the file and checks for syntax errors on save, which stops you from making a typo that locks everyone (including yourself) out of sudo. A very, very good idea.

Command Chaining: && and | |

The shell is smart enough to handle basic logic. This is essential for scripting.

- && (AND): The command on the right runs only if the command on the left succeeds.
 - Use case: mkdir new_dir && cd new_dir (Only change into the directory if the creation was successful).
- | | (OR): The command on the right runs only if the command on the left fails.
 - Use case: grep "ERROR" log.txt || echo "No errors found." (Print a success message only if grep finds nothing and returns an error code).

For Developers: How Not to Make a Mess

If you want to contribute, you need to understand the architecture. It's not complicated, but it is deliberate. The entire system is designed around a few core ideas. Don't fight them.

- 1. **It's All On The Client.** There is no backend. There is no server to save you. The OS is 100% self-reliant, and all data lives and dies in the user's browser. This is a hard constraint.
- 2. **Modularity is Not Optional.** Features are built as discrete, isolated components. The command executor *orchestrates* the filesystem manager; it doesn't get tangled up in its internals. This separation is what keeps the system from turning into a bowl of spaghetti.
- 3. **Security is the Foundation, Not a Feature.** The permission model is not a suggestion. All I/O, without exception, goes through a single gatekeeper (FileSystemManager.hasPermission()). Passwords are never stored in plaintext; they're hashed with the Web Crypto API. There are no shortcuts.
- 4. **Execution is Contained.** Every command follows a strict lifecycle: Lex, Parse, Validate, Execute. We validate everything—arguments, paths, permissions—*before* a single line of the command's core logic is run. This prevents a badly written command from taking down the whole system.

The "El Código del Taco" Architectural Model

This is the simplest way to understand the system. It's a taco. Each layer has one job.

Layer	Ingredient	Responsibility	OopisOS Implementation	
1	The Protein	Core Logic. The actual work.	<pre>commexec.js, fs_manager.js</pre>	
2	The Lettuce	Presentation Layer. The UI.	terminal_ui.js, editor_manager.js	
3	The Cheese	Features. Valuable, but not essential.	BasicInterpreter.js, gemini.js	
4	The Salsa	API & Data. The single source of truth for storage.	storage.js(IndexedDB)	
5	The Onions	Utilities. Helpers that don't fit elsewhere.	utils.js	
6	The Jalapeño	Security. The gatekeepers.	<pre>sudo_manager.js, fs_manager.js</pre>	
7	The Fold	Build & Deploy. The final assembly.	index.html	

The point is, you don't mix the ingredients. The presentation layer doesn't know how the filesystem works, it just knows how to display what it's given.

Adding a New Command: The Command Contract

This is the most important part for contributors. Adding a command is a declarative process. You don't just write code; you write a *contract* that tells the CommandExecutor what your command needs to run safely.

The executor handles all the tedious and error-prone validation for you.

Step 1: Create the Command File

Make a new file in /scripts/commands/. The filename must match the command name (e.g., mycommand.js).

Step 2: Define the Contract

Create an object that defines your command's requirements.

```
// scripts/commands/mycommand.js
const myCommandDefinition = {
 commandName: "mycommand",
 // What flags does it accept?
 flagDefinitions: [
  { name: "force", short: "-f" },
  { name: "output", short: "-o", takesValue: true }
 ],
 // How many arguments are required?
 argValidation: {
  min: 1,
  max: 2,
  error: "Usage: mycommand [-f] [-o file] <source> [destination]"
 },
 // Which arguments are file paths?
 pathValidation: [
  { argIndex: 0, options: { expectedType: 'file' } },
  { argIndex: 1, options: { allowMissing: true } }
 ],
 // What permissions are needed for those paths?
 permissionChecks: [
  { pathArgIndex: 0, permissions: ["read"] }
 // Finally, the logic.
 coreLogic: async (context) => { /* ... */ }
};
```

Step 3: Write the Core Logic

Your coreLogic function receives a context object. By the time your code runs, you can *trust* that everything in this object has already been validated according to your contract.

```
coreLogic: async (context) => {
  const { args, flags, currentUser, validatedPaths } = context;

// No need to check permissions or if the path is valid.

// The CommandExecutor already did it. Just do the work.
  const sourceNode = validatedPaths[0].node;
  const content = sourceNode.content;

// ... your logic here ...

return { success: true, output: "Execution complete." };
}
```

This design makes the system robust. It's hard to write an insecure command because the security is handled for you before your code even runs.

The Testing Environment: Don't Ship Broken Code

A new OS is an empty canvas. That's boring and hard to test. Use these scripts.

- run /extras/inflate.sh: This builds a whole world for you. It creates a complex directory structure with different file types, permissions, and even some secrets to find. Use it to test your commands in a realistic environment.
- run /extras/diag.sh: This is the gauntlet. It's a comprehensive stress test that runs a barrage of commands to check every corner of the OS. If your change breaks diag.sh, fix it. No excuses.

The Text Editors: edit and code

edit: The Main Workhorse

This is your primary text editor. You launch it by typing edit [filepath]. If the file exists, it opens it. If it doesn't, it'll create it when you save (Ctrl+S).

Its main purpose is to be adaptive. It's not just a dumb text box; it changes based on what you're working on.

- Markdown Mode (.md): This is where edit shines. It has a live preview. You can cycle through
 views: editor only, a split view with your code and the rendered output side-by-side, or just the
 preview. Stop writing markup blind.
- HTML Mode (.html): Same deal as Markdown. You get a live, sandboxed preview. The sandboxing is important—it means the HTML is rendered in a clean if rame so it doesn't mess with the rest of the OS UI.
- **Text Mode (everything else)**: For any other file (.txt, .js, .sh), it's a clean, standard text editor. It has a word-wrap toggle that actually saves its state, which is a nice touch.

Key Shortcuts (Memorize these):

- Ctrl+S: Save
- Ctrl+0: Exit
- Ctrl+P: Cycle through view modes (Edit/Split/Preview)
- Ctrl+Z: Undo
- Ctrl+Y: Redo

code: The Scalpel

The code command is for quick, surgical edits. It's not a feature-rich IDE. It's for when you know exactly what line you need to change in a script and you want to get in and get out without any fuss.

Type code [filepath] and it pops a simple modal with a text area. It has basic JavaScript syntax highlighting—it knows about comments, keywords, and strings. That's it. It's not meant to be pretty; it's meant to be clear.

Don't use code to write a novel. Use it to fix a typo in a script. Use edit for anything more substantial. One is a scalpel, the other is a workshop.

So, now that you know how to write and edit files, shall we dig into how the AI tools (chidi and gemini) actually use them?

The Al Tools: chidi and gemini

You have two primary AI commands. They are not the same. Don't use them for the same tasks.

chidi: The Al Librarian for Deep Dives

Think of chidi as a specialist. Its job is to perform deep analysis on a set of documents you already have. You give it a directory, and it launches a dedicated reading application where you can work with that specific collection of files.

chidi /path/to/your/docs

Once you're in the app, you can ask the Al to **summarize** a specific file, generate **study questions**, or—most importantly—**ask a question across all the documents** you loaded.

This is its key feature. It doesn't just dumbly send everything to the cloud. It uses a Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) strategy:

- 1. It performs a local keyword search across your files to find the most relevant ones.
- 2. It then constructs a focused prompt containing *only* the content of those relevant files.
- 3. Finally, it sends that lean, relevant context to the Al for an answer.

This is a smart design. It's faster, cheaper, and gives you better answers because it's not wading through irrelevant garbage. You can even pipe file paths into it (e.g., find . -name "*.md" | chidi) to create a dynamic knowledge base on the fly.

gemini: The General-Purpose Al Assistant

If chidi is a specialist, gemini is your generalist. It's a conversational assistant that lives in your terminal and can use other OS tools to figure things out. It's designed to answer questions when you don't know where the information is.

It operates in two modes:

- 1. Tool-Using Agent (Default): This is the interesting part. When you ask a question like "Which of my text files contain the word 'OopisOS'?", it doesn't just guess. It follows a two-step process:
 - Planner: First, the AI looks at your question and your current directory and formulates a
 plan of whitelisted shell commands (1s, grep, cat, etc.) to find the answer. This is a
 critical security feature; it can't just run rm -rf.
 - Synthesizer: After the OS securely executes those commands, the AI takes the output and formulates a final, human-readable answer.
- 2. **Direct Chat (-p flag)**: If you just want to talk to an AI for creative tasks or general knowledge, you can use the -p flag to specify a provider, like a local Ollama instance (gemini -p ollama "write a story"). In this mode, it's just a direct conversation without the tool-use logic.

The Bottom Line: Which One Do I Use?

- **Use chidi when:** You have a collection of documents and you want to analyze, summarize, or query their content. You know *where* the knowledge is, you just need help processing it.
- **Use gemini when:** You have a question and you want the OS to figure out how to answer it. You want to find files, search for content across the whole system, or get a summary of things it discovers on its own.

One is a librarian for your personal library; the other is a research assistant you can send out into the stacks.

paint: The Character-Based Art Studio

Yes, it's a paint program. For the terminal. Get over it. It exists to solve a real problem: creating visual assets within the OS without needing to import external files. It's for making title screens for your scripts, icons for your files, or maps and character portraits for the adventure engine. It's a tool that embraces the aesthetic of the system instead of fighting it.

How It Works

You invoke it with paint [filename.oopic]. If the file exists, it loads it. Otherwise, you get a blank canvas that saves to that name.

The interface is simple and gets the job done:

- **Toolbar:** Has everything you need and nothing you don't. Pencil, eraser, line and shape tools, a color palette, brush size, and a grid toggle.
- Canvas: A fixed 80x24 grid. You "draw" by placing characters with specific colors.
- Status Bar: Gives you real-time feedback. No guessing what tool you have selected.

It has multi-level undo/redo (Ctrl+Z/Ctrl+Y), which frankly makes it more robust than some "professional" tools I've seen.

The Technical Part (The Only Part That Really Matters)

The implementation is a clean example of the OS's design philosophy.

- **Separation of Concerns:** The logic is split cleanly. PaintManager.js is the brain; it handles the application state—the canvas data (which is just a 2D array), the selected tool, the color, and the undo stack. PaintUI.js is the hands; its only job is to touch the DOM. It renders the canvas and sends user input back to the manager. They don't meddle in each other's business.
- The Canvas Isn't a <canvas>: This is the clever bit. The canvas is not a single <canvas> element. It's a CSS grid of individual elements. This is far more efficient for this use case. Updating one character means changing one , not redrawing a whole bitmap. It's also what makes the "ANSI" style art possible, with a foreground color for each character cell.
- The .oopic File Format: The artwork is saved to a custom .oopic format. It's just JSON. It stores the dimensions and a 2D array of the cells (character and color). This is intentional. It's transparent, human-readable, and you could even edit the art with cat and edit if you were so inclined. It's an open format for an open system.

paint isn't an afterthought. It's a first-class citizen of the OS that proves you can build powerful, creative tools within a limited, text-based paradigm. It's integrated, it's useful, and its architecture is sound.

The Adventure Engine: A Study in Data-Driven Design

The adventure command launches a powerful engine for interactive fiction. You can play the built-in game, but the real value is in understanding how to build your own worlds.

How to Play

This is the simple part.

- adventure: Starts the default game.
- adventure /path/to/my_game.json: Loads a custom game from a JSON file.

Inside the game, type help for a list of commands (look, take, use, etc.). Type quit to exit.

How to Build

This is what matters. You can build your own adventure without writing a single line of JavaScript. You just need to create a . j son file that describes your world.

To start, use the creation tool: adventure --create my_game.json. This drops you into an interactive editor that helps you build the JSON structure.

The Anatomy of an Adventure (.json)

The entire game state is defined by a handful of key objects in your JSON file.

Rooms

These are the locations in your world. Each room has a unique ID, a name, a description, and a list of exits that link to the IDs of other rooms.

```
"test_chamber": {
    "name": "Test Chamber",
    "description": "You are in a room that feels... unfinished.",
    "exits": { "north": "server_closet" },
    "isDark": false
}
```

You can also add sensory details like onListen or onSmell for extra flavor.

Items

These are the objects that populate your rooms. The engine's parser is smart enough to understand nouns and adjectives, so you can take brass key instead of just take key.

The location property determines where an item starts: in a room, in another item (a container), or directly in the "player"'s inventory.

```
"key": {
  "id": "key",
  "name": "brass key",
  "noun": "key",
  "adjectives": ["brass", "small"],
  "description": "A small, plain brass key.",
  "location": "test_chamber",
  "canTake": true,
  "unlocks": "chest"
}
```

Stateful and Interactive Items

Items aren't just static. They can have states ("on"/"off") with different descriptions for each state. They can be containers (isContainer: true) that can be opened and closed.

Most importantly, you can define complex interactions using onPush, onUse, etc. This is how you build puzzles. Pushing a lever can change its own state and trigger an effect that changes the state of another item, like turning on a terminal.

```
"power_box": {
   "id": "power_box",
   "state": "off",
   "onPush": {
        "newState": "on",
        "message": "You push the heavy lever. It clunks into the 'ON' position.",
        "effects": [
            { "targetId": "terminal", "newState": "on" }
        ]
    }
}
```

NPCs and Daemons

You can add Non-Player Characters (npcs) with branching dialogue trees and reactions to items you show them. You can also create daemons—timed events that trigger messages or actions after a certain number of turns, which is perfect for providing hints to a stuck player.

The Point

The adventure engine is a self-contained system that demonstrates how to build a complex, interactive application with a clean separation between the engine's code and the world's data. It's a practical example of the design philosophy that underpins the entire OS. Study it.

Oopis Basic: A Sandboxed Scripting Environment

Before you ask, yes, it's an implementation of the BASIC programming language. It's not here for nostalgia; it's here to demonstrate a core architectural principle: **secure**, **sandboxed code execution**.

The IDE (basic command)

When you type basic [file.bas], you're not just running a script. You're launching a full-screen Integrated Development Environment (IDE). This is a presentation-layer component (basic_app.js) that handles the UI, manages the program you're writing (LIST, SAVE, LOAD), and gives you the commands to control execution (RUN, NEW, EXIT).

It's a focused environment. When you're in it, you're just dealing with your BASIC program.

The Language and The Engine

The language itself is simple, line-numbered BASIC. You have PRINT, INPUT, GOTO, GOSUB/RETURN, and IF...THEN. It's straightforward.

The interesting part is the engine, BasicInterpreter.js. This is a self-contained parser and executor. Crucially, it has **no direct access to the file system or the main command executor**. This is the sandbox. A G0T0 10 loop in a BASIC program can't crash the host OS because it's running in an isolated environment.

The Secure Bridge: SYS_ Functions

So how does a sandboxed program do anything useful? Through a secure, controlled bridge to the host OS. The interpreter provides a specific set of system functions that a BASIC program can call:

- SYS_CMD ("command"): Executes an OopisOS shell command and returns its output as a string.
- SYS_READ("filepath"): Reads the content of a file from the virtual file system.
- SYS_WRITE("filepath", "content"): Writes content to a file.

When your BASIC program uses one of these, the interpreter doesn't just execute it. It bundles up the request and passes it through the main CommandExecutor and FileSystemManager. This means any action your BASIC program attempts is still subject to the OS's fundamental permission model. A Guest user running a BASIC script still can't read files in the /home/root directory, because the request is ultimately handled and validated by the secure core of the OS.

That is the entire point. It's not just a feature; it's an architectural statement on how to safely grant power to a subsystem without compromising the integrity of the whole.

log: The Captain's Journal

The log command is your personal journal. It's simple, secure, and built on the principle that your data is your own. When you run log, it opens a clean, two-pane application: a timeline of your entries on the left and an editor on the right.

The most important architectural point is that there is no complex database behind it. Each entry is just a separate Markdown file stored in ~/.journal/. This is a deliberate design choice. It means you can use the entire OopisOS toolchain on your journal. You can grep for entries, cat them to the terminal, or back them up with zip. The application is just a convenient front-end for managing a directory of text files. It's a perfect example of leveraging the core OS features instead of reinventing the wheel.

You can also make a quick entry directly from the command line:

```
log "This is a new entry."
```

It's a simple tool that does one job well, and it does it by building on the foundation of the filesystem. That's good design.

explore: The Graphical File Explorer

The explore command is for when a visual overview is faster than typing 1s -R. It opens a two-pane file explorer: a directory tree on the left, and the contents of the selected directory on the right.

It's a read-only tool. Its purpose is orientation. Use it to quickly navigate a complex directory structure, find what you're looking for, and then get back to the command line where the real work happens. It respects all file permissions, so you'll only see what you're allowed to see.

OopisOS: Security by Design

OopisOS is architected on a principle of zero-trust, ensuring security by default, not by effort. The system's security is not a single feature, but a series of interlocking components that govern every action from authentication to file access.

The Bedrock

The security model is built on three pillars: **client-side sandboxing**, **explicit user permissions**, and **architected containment**. The system has no servers, collects no user data, and has no access to local files beyond what the user explicitly provides.

The Core Model: How It Works

Every security-sensitive action is funneled through audited, single-purpose managers.

- Authentication (UserManager & passwd): User passwords are never stored in plaintext. They
 are hashed using the browser's native Web Crypto API with SHA-256, as seen in
 user_manager.js's_secureHashPassword function. The passwd command provides the
 user-facing interface for changing passwords, invoking UserManager.changePassword to
 orchestrate the secure update process.
- Authorization (FileSystemManager): This component is the sole gatekeeper for all file system operations. As implemented in fs_manager.js, every attempt to read, write, or execute a file is validated through the FileSystemManager.hasPermission(node, username, permissionType) function. This function rigorously checks the file's owner and group against its octal permissions (rwx). The only exception is the root user, who bypasses these checks.
- Privilege Escalation (SudoManager & visudo): The sudo command allows for temporary, controlled privilege escalation. Access is governed by the /etc/sudoers file, which is parsed by the SudoManager. The visudo command ensures this file is edited safely, setting its mode to a read-only 0o440 upon saving to prevent unauthorized modification. Privileges granted via sudo are temporary and scoped to the specific command executed.

Your Security Toolkit: Data Verification and Protection

OopisOS provides a suite of command-line tools for data integrity and security.

Command	Role in Security	Implementation Details			
cksum	Verification	Calculates a 32-bit CRC checksum and byte count for a file's content. This is used to verify that a file has not been altered or corrupted since its last check.			
base64	Transformation	Encodes and decodes data using the Base64 standard, utilizing the browser's native btoa() and atob() functions. This is essential for safely transmitting binary data through text-only systems.			
ocrypt	Encryption	Provides strong, password-based file encryption using the modern AES-GCM standard, implemented via the Web Crypto API. This is the recommended tool for securing sensitive files.			
xor	Obscurity	A simple password-based XOR cipher. This is not secure encryption. It is included as an educational tool to demonstrate basic data transformation principles.			
sync	Persistence	Manually forces all pending filesystem changes to be written from memory to the underlying IndexedDB database by calling FileSystemManager.save().			

This suite embodies the OopisOS philosophy: providing the user with transparent and robust tools to manage their own data security.

Command Reference: The Toolbox

This is not an exhaustive guide. It's a quick reference. For the full, excruciating detail on any command, use man [command_name].

1. Observation & Security: Look Before You Leap

You can't manage what you can't see. These are the foundational tools for observing the state of the system and its rules.

Command	What It Actually Does				
ls	Lists directory contents. Use it constantly. 1s -1 provides a detailed long format, while other flags sort by time (-t), size (-S), or reverse order (-r).				
tree	Lists contents in a tree-like format. It's $1s$ for people who like diagrams. Use -L <1eve1> to limit depth or -d for directories only.				
pwd	Prints the working directory. Tells you where you are. If you're lost, use this.				
diff	Compares two files line by line. Shows you exactly what changed. Invaluable.				
df	Reports filesystem disk space usage. Shows you how much space you've got left in the virtual disk. Use -h for human-readable sizes.				
du	Estimates file space usage. Shows you how much space a specific file or directory is taking up. Supports -h for human-readable and -s for a summary.				
chmod	Changes the permission mode of a file. The core of file security. Use 3-digit octal modes (e.g., 755). If you don't know what that means, you shouldn't be using it.				
find	Searches for files. A powerful tool to find files based on name, type, permissions (-perm), and modification time (-mtime). The all-seeing eye of the filesystem.				
cksum	Calculates a checksum for a file. Verifies that a file hasn't been corrupted. If the numbers match, the file is the same.				

2. User & Group Management: The Social Contract

Now that you can see, you need to manage who's who. This is about defining the actors in your security model.

Command	What It Actually Does				
useradd	Creates a new user account. Also creates their home directory. Prompts for a password via a modal input.				
removeuser	Deletes a user account. Use -r to also delete their home directory and all their files. Be careful with this one.				
groupadd	Creates a new user group. For managing permissions for multiple users at once. Requires root privileges.				
groupdel	Deletes a group. You can't delete a group if it's the primary group for any user. Requires root privileges.				
usermod	Modifies a user's group memberships. Its only supported use here is usermod -aG <group> <user> to add a user to a supplementary group.</user></group>				
passwd	Changes a user's password. If you're not root, you can only change your own, and you'll need to provide the old one.				
chown	Changes the user ownership of a file. Only the file's owner or root can do this.				
chgrp	Changes the group ownership of a file. Same rules as chown.				
sudo	Executes a command as root. The safe way to get administrative privileges for a single command, governed by /etc/sudoers.				
visudo	Safely edits the /etc/sudoers file. The <i>only</i> way you should touch this file. It prevents you from locking yourself out and secures the file on save.				
login	Logs in as a different user. This replaces your current session.				
logout	Logs out of a stacked session. This is the counterpart to su. Use it to return to your original user.				
su	Switches to another user. Stacks a new session on top of your current one. Default is root.				
whoami	Prints your current username. In case you forget.				
groups	Displays group memberships. Shows you which groups a user belongs to.				
listusers	Lists all registered users. A quick way to see who has an account on the system.				

3. The Workshop: Fundamental File Operations

These are the tools you'll use every day. They are simple, sharp, and do exactly what they say they do.

Command	What It Actually Does
mkdir	Makes a new directory. Use the -p flag to create parent directories as needed, which saves you from creating them one by one.
rmdir	Removes <i>empty</i> directories. If there's anything in it, this command will fail. This is a safety feature. Use it.
touch	Creates an empty file or updates the timestamp of an existing one using -d for date strings or -t for stamps.
echo	Writes its arguments to the output. Its main purpose is to write text into files using redirection (>). Supports -e to enable backslash escapes like \n and \t.
cat	Concatenates and displays file content. Dumps the entire contents of a file to the screen. Use -n to number the output lines.
head	Outputs the first part of a file. By default, the first 10 lines. Use -n for lines or -c for bytes.
tail	Outputs the last part of a file. The opposite of head. Essential for checking the end of log files. Also supports -n and -c.
ср	Copies files or directories. Use -r for directories, -p to preserve metadata, and -i to be prompted before overwriting.
mv	Moves or renames files and directories. Same command, different result based on whether the destination exists. Supports $-i$ for interactive and $-f$ to force overwrites.
rm	Removes (deletes) files or directories. There is no undelete. Use -r for directories and -f to force deletion without prompting. Be extremely careful. You've been warned.
zip	Creates a simulated .zip archive. Bundles a file or directory into a single JSON file representing the file structure.
unzip	Extracts a simulated .zip archive. The counterpart to zip, recreating the archived directory structure.
upload	Uploads files from your real machine into the OS. Opens a file dialog. Use -r to upload an entire directory.
export	Downloads a file from the OS to your real machine.

4. The Assembly Line: Text Processing & Automation

This is where the real power of a command-line OS comes from. These tools are designed to be chained together with pipes (|) to perform complex data manipulation.

Command	What It Actually Does				
grep	Finds lines that match a pattern. The single most useful text processing tool you have. Supports $-i$, $-v$, $-n$, $-c$, and recursive $(-R)$ search.				
sort	Sorts lines of text. Alphabetically by default, or numerically with $-n$. Use $-r$ to reverse and $-u$ for unique lines.				
uniq	Filters out adjacent repeated lines. Use -c to count, -d for only repeated lines, and -u for only unique lines. Useless without sort first.				
WC	Counts lines (-1), words (-w), and bytes (-c). Good for sanity checks.				
awk	A powerful pattern-scanning and text-processing language. Use -F to specify a field separator and {print \$N} to extract columns.				
more/ less	Pagers to display content one screen at a time. less is better because it lets you scroll backward (b or ArrowUp) and forward (f or Space).				
bc	An arbitrary-precision calculator. Pipe an expression to it or provide it as an argument. Handles basic arithmetic and parentheses.				
xargs	Builds and executes command lines from standard input. The glue that lets you use the output of one command as the arguments for another. Use -I <str> to replace a placeholder.</str>				
run	Executes a shell script (.sh file). The foundation of all automation, with argument support (\$1, \$@, \$#).				
delay	Pauses execution for a number of milliseconds. Essential for scripting demonstrations.				
base64	Encodes or decodes data. For making binary data safe for text-based systems. Use -d to decode.				

5. The Bridge: Networking & System Integrity

These commands are for interacting with the outside world and managing the state of the OS itself. Some of these are dangerous. Pay attention.

Command	What It Actually Does					
wget	Downloads a file from a URL. A non-interactive downloader. Specify an output file with -0.					
curl	A more versatile data transfer tool. Use it for API interaction, −i to see headers, −o for output file, and −L to follow redirects.					
ps	Lists current background processes that you started with &. Shows the Process ID (PID) and the command.					
kill	Terminates a background process by its Job ID (PID) from ps.					
backup	Creates a full, downloadable backup of the entire OS state. This is your escape hatch. It includes a checksum for integrity.					
restore	Restores the OS from a backup file. Wipes the current state completely. It will ask for confirmation.					
sync	Commits filesystem caches to persistent storage. Forces a save of the in-memory fsData object to IndexedDB.					
reboot	Reboots the virtual machine by reloading the page. All your data persists.					
reset	Wipes ALL OopisOS data and performs a factory reset. This is the "burn it all down" command. It is permanent. It is destructive. Use it when you want to start over from nothing.					

6. The Cockpit: High-Level Applications

These are the full-screen modal apps. We've covered them in detail, so this is just a quick reference.

Command	What It Actually Does
edit	Opens the main text editor with live previews for Markdown/HTML.
paint	Launches the character-based art studio. For creating assets with the .oopic extension.
explore	Opens the graphical file explorer. For a quick visual overview of your files.
chidi	The "Al Librarian." Launches a dedicated app for analyzing a collection of documents using a configured LLM provider.
gemini	The general-purpose Al assistant. Uses system tools to answer questions about your files or can interact directly with local LLMs.
adventure	Starts the text adventure engine. Lets you play or create interactive fiction using .json files. Usecreate to enter the editor.
basic	Launches the Oopis Basic IDE. A sandboxed environment for writing and running .bas programs.
log	Opens the personal journaling application. A simple front-end for managing timestamped text files. Can also create quick entries from the command line.

7. The Environment: Shell & Session Control

These commands control the shell itself. Use them to customize your environment and manage your workflow.

Command	What It Actually Does				
help	Displays a list of commands or a command's basic syntax. A quick reminder.				
man	Displays the detailed manual page for a command. This is help with more words.				
history	Displays or clears the command history. Use -c to clear it.				
clear	Clears the terminal screen. Doesn't clear your history, just the clutter.				
alias	Creates command shortcuts. alias ll='ls -l' is a classic for a reason.				
unalias	Removes an alias.				
set	Sets or displays environment variables. Use it to customize your PS1 prompt.				
unset	Removes an environment variable.				
date	Displays the current system date and time.				

FAQ: The Real Questions

What is this thing, really?

It's a simulated operating system that runs entirely in your browser. It's a persistent, private sandbox for you to work, play, and experiment in. There is no cloud. There is no server. All your data is stored on your machine, and only on your machine. We don't have it, we don't want it.

So my data is actually private?

Yes. See the point above. All files, user accounts, and session information are stored exclusively in your browser's localStorage and IndexedDB. It never leaves your computer unless you explicitly export or backup a file.

What's the root password?

It's mcgoopis. This is set during the initial user setup in UserManager.initializeDefaultUsers. Don't lose it. And don't do everything as root. That's just asking for trouble.

Why are some commands so slow?

Because your disk might be slow, or you're doing a lot at once. OopisOS's performance is directly tied to the read/write speed of the browser's IndexedDB storage. Operations that hit the virtual disk hard—like find, unzip, or grep -R—will be limited by the speed of this storage. That's not a bug; it's physics.

My Gemini API key disappeared when I switched computers. What gives?

That's a security feature, not a bug. Your API key is stored in your browser's localStorage using the key oopisGeminiApiKey, which is specific to that machine. It is *intentionally* not included in system backups created by the backup command to prevent you from accidentally sharing your private key. You'll need to re-enter your key the first time you use an AI command on a new machine.

Why can't wget or curl download from every website?

CORS (Cross-Origin Resource Sharing). Because OopisOS runs in a browser, it's subject to the browser's security rules, which are enforced via the fetch API. If a website's server doesn't explicitly send a header that allows your browser to request its data, the browser will block the request. This isn't a limitation of OopisOS; it's a fundamental security policy of the web.

Is this just Linux?

No. It's a *simulation* of a Unix-like operating system, implemented in JavaScript. Many of the commands are designed to behave like their real-world counterparts (1s, grep, chmod, etc.), but it is not a Linux kernel. It's a self-contained environment that provides a similar *experience* and enforces similar security principles, such as user and group permissions managed by chown and chgrp.

Who is this for?

It's for people who are curious. It's for developers who want to see how an OS can be architected in a non-traditional environment. It's for students who want a safe environment to learn command-line fundamentals without the risk of damaging a real system. It's for anyone who wants a private, portable sandbox to play in. If you're looking for a production-grade server to run your company's database, you're in the wrong place.

About & Credits

The Creators

This project was a collaboration between two entities:

- Andrew Edmark: The Human. The Curator. The one who provided the direction, did the testing, and assembled the final work.
- **Gemini**: The Al Assistant. The one that generated code, drafted documentation, and was generally responsible for the bugs that later became features.

The Social Contract (aka The Boring Legal Bit)

This is the MIT License, more or less. It lays out what you can and can't do. The important part is that this software is provided "AS IS", without warranty. If it breaks, you get to keep both pieces.

This Software, OopisOS, represents a collaborative endeavor between human direction and artificial intelligence.

Copyright (c) 2025 Andrew Edmark (hereinafter referred to as the "Curator")

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Now	what	are '	vou	still	here	for?

Go.

Explore.

Create.