Linux Command Line Tutorial

Spring 2017

- Examples given below are basic and simple. Intension here is to introduce to you the necessary and helpful Linux bash commands. If you intend on becoming a command line Ninja, please use Google/man pages ©
- Make Directory (**mkdir**):
 - o mkdir test dir
 - o mkdir -p test dir/test dir2/test dir3
- Remove Directory (**rmdir**)
 - o rmdir test dir/test dir2/test dir3 (Removes dir only if it's empty)
 - o rm -rf test dir (Removes everything in the dir recursively. Be careful!!!)
- Navigation shortcuts:
 - o ctrl a (Brings cursor to beginning)
 - o ctrl e (Brings cursor to end)
 - o ctrl u (Deletes entire command line)
 - o ctrl w (Deletes with white space character delimiter)
 - o ctrl c (Cancels current command/process)
 - o ctrl r (Start typing to bring up commands from history)
- **pwd** (Print working directory)\
- **history** (Provides a list of previously executed commands)
- Change Directory (cd):
 - o cd test dir
 - o cd test_dir/test_dir2/test_dir3 (Use tab to auto complete. Tab twice to list)
 - o cd (Change to previous dir)
 - \circ cd \sim (Change to home dir)
 - o cd.. (Change to dir one level up)
- List contents (ls)
 - \circ 1s
 - o ls -lh (Detailed list with size in human readable format)
 - o ls -lah (Detailed list (including hidden files) with size in human readable format)
- Aliases (alias)
 - o alias ls="ls -lah" (ls works as ls -lah henceforth. Put this in .profile file in home directory to have this enabled as soon as you login)
- Manual Pages (man)
 - o man ls (Manual page gives lots of useful information about the command)
- Apropos (apropos)
 - o apropos directory (Search for key words)
- Copy (**cp**)
 - o cp file1 test dir/file2 (Copy files)
 - o cp -pr dir1 dir2 (Copy directories)
- Rename or move (**mv**)
 - o mv file1 test dir/file2 (Moves and renames file1 to file2 in test dir)
 - o mv dir1 dir2 (Renames dir1 to dir2)
- Print on standard output (cat)

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o cat file
                    (Print file content)
o cat file1 file2 (Concatenate and print contents of file1 and file2)
less and more command
o more file1
                    (Read text one screenful at a time. Only forward)
o less file1
                    (Same as above but also allows backward movement)
Tail a file (tail)
o tail filename (Print last 10 lines of filename)
o tail -n 20 filename
                           (Print last 20 lines of filename)
o tail -f filename
                           (Follow filename and print new lines)
Print starting lines of a file (head)
o head filename (Print 10 starting lines of filename)
o head -n 20 filename (Print 20 starting lines of filename)
Word Count (wc)
o wc -l file name
                            (Gives line count)
o cat file name |wc -1
                           (Another way to do the same using a pipe)
awk
                                   (Prints 2<sup>nd</sup> field. White space character delimiter)
o cat file |awk '{print $2}'
o cat file |awk '{print $1, $2}' (Prints 1st and 2nd field)
    cat file |awk '{print $(NF-1), $NF}' (Prints last but one field and last field)
    cat file |awk '1 = 1 {print 1, 2}' (Prints 1^{st} and 2^{nd} field if 1^{st} field equal to 1)
sed
                            (Substitute 1<sup>st</sup> occurrence of 1 with 9 in each line of file)
o cat file |sed 's/1/9/'
o cat file |sed 's/1/9/g'
                           (Substitute all occurrences of 1 with 9 in each line of file)
\circ sed -i 's/1/9/'
                           (Edit and substitute in place)
stdin, stdout, stderr
\circ 0 -> stdin
\circ 1 -> stdout
\circ 2 -> stderr
o tail filename > filename2
                                   (Redirect stdout to a file instead of display)
o tail filename 1>filename2
                                   (Another way to do the above)
o long tail filename 2>filename2
                                           (Redirect stderr to a file)
o long tail filename > filename 2 2>&1
                                                   (Redirect both stderr and stdout to a file)
o long tail filename >> filename2 2>&1
                                                   (Same as above but append to file)
o tail filename > /dev/null
                                   (Redirect output to a black hole!)
jobs
o ctrl z to suspend current process.
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- End a command/script with & (ampersand) to run it in background.
- o jobs (To list all jobs)
- bg %<job number> (To run job in background)
- o fg %<job number> (To run job in foreground)
- (To suspend a job) kill -19 %<job number>
- kill %<job number> (To kill a job)