

Current directory (.) Dot

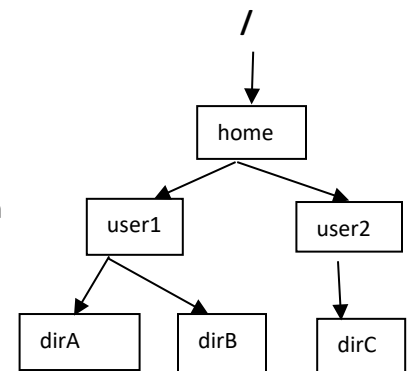
- also called 'working directory', '**pwd**' shows path for your 'Present Working Directory'

Parent directory (..) Dot Dot

- is immediately above the working directory
- every directory, except the root directory, has a parent directory

Pathname

- Pathname gives the location of a file (or directory) in a hierarchical filesystem
- 'echo \$PATH' shows the search path for your shell

Type of Path:

(1) Absolute path	starts with forward slash /
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- Always begins at the top of the directory tree, from the root
- Always starts with a forward slash: `/home/user1/dirA`

(2) Relative path	starts with dot(.) or dotdot (..)
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- Is 'relative' to your current directory (current location)
- Specifies path from Current Directory to directory/file you are referring to
- Does NOT begin with a slash. Begins with dot, dot-dot, or the name of dir or file
- To go to a directory at the same level you cannot 'jump' across (you go up a level, then down to that directory)
- In a relative path, use `.(dot)` for current dir and `..(dot-dot)` for parent dir
- If you have to go up multiple levels, then you can use `.. (dot-dot)` multiple times
- If you are in user1's dirB, then to list contents of user2's dirC: `ls -l ../../user2/dirC`
- If you are user1, if your current directory was dirA, then to go to dirB you would say:

Using relative pathname:	<code>cd ../dirB</code>
Using absolute pathname:	<code>cd /home/user1/dirB</code>

(3) Relative-to-home path	starts with Tilde ~
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- This is like an absolute path, in which home directory is replaced by a Tilde `~`
- Assume that **I am user1**
 - Absolute path for user1's home directory `/home/user1`
 - Absolute path to dirB (dirB is inside user1's home dir) `/home/user1/dirB`
 - Relative-to-home path to dirB in my home dir `~/dirB`
- If you are user1, but want to **point to a different user's directory** (eg. user2)
 - Home dir for user2 is `/home/user2`
 - Absolute path to dirC for user2 will be `/home/user2/dirC`
 - Relative-to-home path to dirC `~user2/dirC`