

HADOOP HDFS COMPLETE COMMAND GUIDE (Cloudera VM)

1 Required Pseudo Services to Start

```
sudo service hadoop-hdfs-namenode start
sudo service hadoop-hdfs-datanode start
sudo service hadoop-yarn-resourcemanager start
sudo service hadoop-yarn-nodemanager start
sudo service hadoop-mapreduce-historyserver start
```

 **Meaning:** Starts Hadoop's main file system (NameNode manages metadata, DataNode stores data).

 *Without these, no file/directory operation works.*

2 Create Directory in HDFS

```
hdfs dfs -mkdir /user/cloudera/demo
```

 **Meaning:** Creates a directory named demo inside your HDFS user folder.

 *Use -p if parent directories don't exist.*

3 Create File in HDFS

```
hdfs dfs -touchz /user/cloudera/demo/sample.txt
```

 **Meaning:** Creates an empty file (0 bytes) named sample.txt in /user/cloudera/demo.

4 Create File in Local System

```
echo "Hello Hadoop" > sample1.txt
```

 **Meaning:** Creates a file named sample1.txt in your local Desktop (current directory) with text inside.

 *Verify using ls.*

5 Move / Copy File from Local → HDFS

A Using put

```
hdfs dfs -put sample1.txt /user/cloudera/demo/  
✓ Uploads file from local → HDFS (keeps local copy).
```

B Using copyFromLocal

```
hdfs dfs -copyFromLocal sample1.txt /user/cloudera/demo/  
✓ Same as put, another syntax.
```

C Using moveFromLocal

```
hdfs dfs -moveFromLocal sample1.txt /user/cloudera/demo/  
✓ Moves file from local → HDFS (deletes local copy after upload).
```

6 View Directory and Files

```
hdfs dfs -ls /user/cloudera/demo/  
✓ Meaning: Lists all files inside the /user/cloudera/demo directory.
```

7 View File Content (HDFS)

```
hdfs dfs -cat /user/cloudera/demo/sample1.txt  
✓ Meaning: Displays the content of the file directly on the terminal.
```

8 Move / Copy File from HDFS → Local

A Using get

```
hdfs dfs -get /user/cloudera/demo/sample1.txt /home/cloudera/Desktop/  
✓ Copies file from HDFS to local (keeps it in HDFS).
```

B Using copyToLocal

```
hdfs dfs -copyToLocal /user/cloudera/demo/sample1.txt /home/cloudera/Desktop/  
✓ Same as get.
```

C Using moveToLocal

```
hdfs dfs -moveToLocal /user/cloudera/demo/sample1.txt /home/cloudera/Desktop/  
✓ Moves file from HDFS → local (deletes it from HDFS).
```



9 Check Disk Usage (du) and Filesystem Info (df)

Disk Usage (per file)

```
hdfs dfs -du /user/cloudera/demo/
```

Shows file size and directory usage.

Filesystem Info

```
hdfs dfs -df
```

Shows total, used, and available HDFS space.



10 Delete File or Directory

Delete Single File

```
hdfs dfs -rm /user/cloudera/demo/sample1.txt
```

Delete Entire Folder

```
hdfs dfs -rm -r /user/cloudera/demo/
```

Meaning: Removes files or directories from HDFS.



11 Empty Trash (Permanent Delete)

```
hdfs dfs -expunge
```

Meaning: Empties the HDFS Trash — permanently deletes removed files.



12 Copy / Move Files Inside HDFS

Copy File

```
hdfs dfs -cp /user/cloudera/demo/sample1.txt /user/cloudera/demo/sample_copy.txt
```

Move File

```
hdfs dfs -mv /user/cloudera/demo/sample_copy.txt /user/cloudera/exp1/
```

Meaning: Copies or moves files within HDFS, not local.

 **13** Common Fixes for Issues You Faced

Problem	Cause	Fix
No such file or directory	Wrong file name or folder doesn't exist	Check using ls before upload
Caught exception / InterruptedException	Hadoop services not running	Run sudo service hadoop-hdfs-namenode start & sudo service hadoop-hdfs-datanode start
mkdir: File exists	Directory already exists	Use another name or delete with -rm -r
Permission denied	Need admin rights	Add sudo -u hdfs before command
Local path confusion	Used /user/cloudera/Desktop (HDFS) instead of /home/cloudera/Desktop (local)	Always use /home/cloudera/Desktop for local paths
-pwd: Unknown command	pwd only works in local Linux, not HDFS	Use pwd locally, not hdfs dfs -pwd

⚡ 14 Quick Memory Table (For Exam/Viva)

Task	Command	Meaning
Create Directory	hdfs dfs -mkdir /path/	Make folder in HDFS
Create File in HDFS	hdfs dfs -touchz /path/file.txt	Create empty file
Create File in Local	echo "Text" > file.txt	Make local text file
Upload Local → HDFS	hdfs dfs -put file.txt /path/	Copy to HDFS
Download HDFS → Local	hdfs dfs -get /path/file.txt /home/cloudera/Desktop/	Copy to local
Move in HDFS	hdfs dfs -mv /src /dest	Move within HDFS
Copy in HDFS	hdfs dfs -cp /src /dest	Copy within HDFS
Check Size	hdfs dfs -du /path	Shows file sizes
Check Filesystem	hdfs dfs -df	Shows HDFS usage
Remove	hdfs dfs -rm /path	Delete file
Empty Trash	hdfs dfs -expunge	Permanent delete

🏁 15 Your Final Verification Flow (Full Practice Round)

1. Start Services

```
sudo service hadoop-hdfs-namenode start
sudo service hadoop-hdfs-datanode start
```

2. Make HDFS Directory

```
hdfs dfs -mkdir /user/cloudera/demo
```

```
# 3. Make Local File
echo "Hello Hadoop" > sample.txt

# 4. Upload to HDFS
hdfs dfs -put sample.txt /user/cloudera/demo

# 5. Verify Upload
hdfs dfs -ls /user/cloudera/demo

# 6. Check Content
hdfs dfs -cat /user/cloudera/demo/sample.txt

# 7. Move from HDFS → Local
hdfs dfs -moveToLocal /user/cloudera/demo/sample.txt /home/cloudera/Desktop/

# 8. Verify in Local
ls /home/cloudera/Desktop/
```

 **Done** — you've now completed the core HDFS cycle (Local → HDFS → Local) perfectly.