

1. Linux CLI - Files

At first, using the Linux Command Line Interface (CLI) can seem a bit scary! But don't be worried! There are lots of tools and commands that when used correctly are incredibly powerful. This series will explore many powerful and useful linux commands to equip you with the skills to become a linux ninja!

touch

The touch command is used to create new empty files with default permissions. It also does a little more but we won't go into those features right now. Try making a new empty file called hello.txt.

```
>: touch hello.txt
```

ls

ls is used to list files in a directory. It has lots of options for showing even more information like the file permissions, the size of the file and when it was last modified. Try typing the following commands and work out the differences in the output. You should also see the file you created with the touch command.

```
>: ls
>: ls -l
>: ls -lh
>: ls -lhS
>: ls -lhSr
```

cp

This is an easy one! It copies a file!

```
>: cp hello.txt helloworld.txt
```

Now try using the ls command to see the new file you have made.

rm

rm will delete whichever file you tell it to so be careful with this command! Lets try deleting hello.txt

```
>: rm hello.txt
```

Check that the file has deleted by using ls

mv

mv can be used to move files to a different directory. It can also be used to rename files which is very useful. Lets try that now.

```
>: mv helloworld.txt hellodojo.txt
```

Use ls to check the name of the new file.

cat

cat stands for catalog and is a useful little command which can output the contents of a file to the screen.

```
>: cat hellodojo.txt
```

You shouldn't have any output yet because the file is empty but we will use this command on the next sushi card.

Now lets try these!

Try out your new skills by completing these tasks.

1. Create a new file and call it `dojo.txt`
2. Copy this file and call the new file `dojosrock.txt`
3. List out these new files.
4. Rename `dojo.txt` to `dojosreallyrock.txt`
5. Try and list out the files in the `/var/log` directory.
6. Try to output the file `/var/log/messages` to the command line.