

SHORT LIST OF LINUX TERMINAL COMMANDS

ls

list directory contents

EXAMPLE USAGE: ls [OPTIONS] [FILE]

POPULAR FLAGS:

-a, --all

list all files, including hidden

-h, --human-readable

show file sizes in a human-readable format, eg., 3.7K instead of 3771

-l

detailed list

TYPICAL USAGE: ls -hal

NOTES:

First two items are always '.' and '..', these mean something. '.' means 'in this folder' or 'current directory'. '..' means 'one folder up'.

cd

change directory

EXAMPLE USAGE: cd [DESTINATION]

NOTES:

Destination can be defined relatively or explicitly. Relative path will likely be more common.

Two special characters, '..' and '~'. '..' signifies 'one folder up' and '~' represents your home directory.

TYPICAL USAGE: cd ~/CS211/HW01

pwd

prints your current directory

EXAMPLE USAGE: pwd

echo

echoes back what it's given

EXAMPLE USAGE: echo ~

NOTES:

If the thing being echoed is a represents something else, as shown in the example, then the representation is shown. On my laptop, the command echo ~ outputs /home/sweenish.

mv

move (and rename) files

EXAMPLE USAGE: mv [FILE] [DESTINATION]

NOTES:

Renaming is done by specifying the file to rename, and simply providing the new

name. Eg., mv test test2 renames a file called test to test2.

cp

copy files

EXAMPLE USAGE: cp [FILE] [DESTINATION]

man

read the manual for a command

EXAMPLE USAGE: man [COMMAND]

NOTES:

Nearly this whole guide was put together by reading man pages.

g++

The C++ compiler that will be used for this class.

EXAMPLE USAGE: g++ -Wall [INPUT NAME] -o [OUTPUT NAME]

NOTES: The above example shows the method by which all programs will be compiled for grading.

ssh

Remote login client using SSH

EXAMPLE USAGE: ssh [USERNAME]@[REMOTE HOSTNAME]

NOTES: This allows a remote connection from a Linux terminal or macOS Terminal to the Linux Lab. Windows users should use PuTTY instead.

scp

secure copy and remote copy

EXAMPLE USAGE: scp [(PATH/TO/)FILENAME(S)] [USERNAME]@[HOSTNAME]:
[(PATH/TO/)FILENAME]

POPULAR FLAGS:

-r

recursively copy a folder and its contents

NOTES: This allows copying of files from a local machine running Linux or macOS to the Linux Lab. Windows users should use WinSCP instead.

apropos

find a command

EXAMPLE USAGE: apropos [KEYWORD(S)]

NOTES: A good tool for those times when you forgot the exact command you want to use

rm

remove files and/or folders

EXAMPLE USAGE: `rm [FLAGS] [FILENAMES(S)]`

POPULAR FLAGS:

- r, -R, --recursively
remove directories and their contents recursively
- f, --force
ignores files that don't exist, does not ask for confirmation. DANGEROUS!
Ensure that you know exactly what you are deleting
- v, --verbose
Have rm explain everything it's doing

NOTES:

All three flags are very common, but is important to be very careful when using the -f flag.

mkdir

make directory

EXAMPLE USAGE: `mkdir [DIRECTORY NAME]`

POPULAR FLAGS:

- p, --parents
creates parent directories if needed

NOTES: It is a very good idea to organize your work

cat

concatenates files

EXAMPLE USAGE: `cat [FILENAME]`

NOTES: Generally used to view the contents of a file quickly on the terminal screen

touch

update timestamps

EXAMPLE USAGE: `touch [FILENAME]`

NOTES: Will create the file if it does not exist.