



UNIX Command-Line Cheat Sheet

File system Commands	
ls	lists directories and files
ls -a	lists all files including hidden files
ls -lh	formatted list including more data
ls -t	lists sorted by date
pwd	returns path to working directory
cd dir	changes directory
cd ..	goes to parent directory
cd /	goes to root directory
cd	goes to home directory
touch file_name	creates an empty file
cp file file_copy	copy a file
cp -r	copy files contained in directories
rm file	deletes a file
rm -r dir	deletes a directory and its files
mv file1 file2	moves or renames a file
mkdir dir_name	creates a directory
rmdir dir_name	deletes a directory
locate file_name	searches a file
man command	shows commands manual
top	shows process activity
df -h	shows disk space info
apt-get install	installs programs in linux

Compression commands	
gzip/zip	compress a file
gunzip/unzip	decompress a file
tar -cvf	groups files
tar -xvf	ungroups files
tar -zcvf	groups and gzip files
tar -zxvf	gunzip and ungroups files

Text handling commands	
command > file	saves STDOUT in a file
command >> file	appends STDOUT in a file
cat file	concatenate and print files
cat file1 file2 > file3	merges files 1 and 2 into file3
cat *fasta > all.fasta	concatenates all fasta files in the current directory
head file	prints first lines from a file
head -n 5 file	prints first five lines from a file
tail file	prints last lines from a file
tail -n 5 file	prints last five lines from a file
less file	view a file content
less -N file	includes line numbers
less -S file	does not wrap long lines
grep 'pattern' file	Prints lines matching a pattern
grep -c 'pattern' file	counts lines matching a pattern
cut -f 1,3 file	retrieves data from selected columns in a tab-delimited file
sort file	sorts lines from a file
sort -u file	sorts and return unique lines
uniq -c file	filters adjacent repeated lines
wc file	counts lines, words and bytes
paste file1 file2	concatenates the lines of input files
paste -d ","	concatenates the lines of input files by commas
sed	transforms text

Networking Commands	
wget URL	download a file from an URL
ssh user@server	connects to a server
scp	copy files between computers