

# **Operating Systems (Client)**

## **Practical 6c**

### **How to use the Linux manual pages**

**Dr. Kevin Farrell**

**December 2008**

## Table of Contents

Legal.....	3
1. How to use the Linux Manual.....	4
1.1. Introduction.....	4
1.2. Searching for a text string in the manual page.....	4
1.3. Other Ways to Access the Linux Manual Pages.....	4

# Legal


This material is licensed under the [Creative Commons<sup>1</sup>](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/) license [Attribution-ShareAlike 2.0<sup>2</sup>](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/).


What follows is a copy of the "human-readable summary" of this document. The Legal Code (full license) may be read [here<sup>3</sup>](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/legalcode/).

## You are free:

- to copy, distribute, display, and perform the work
- to make derivative works
- to make commercial use of the work

## Under the following conditions:

 **Attribution.** You must give the original author credit.

 **Share Alike.** If you alter, transform, or build upon this work, you may distribute the resulting work only under a license identical to this one.

- For any reuse or distribution, you must make clear to others the license terms of this work.
- Any of these conditions can be waived if you get permission from the copyright holder.

## Your fair use and other rights are in no way affected by the above.

This is a human-readable summary of the [Legal Code \(the full license\)<sup>4</sup>](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/legalcode/).

---

1 <http://creativecommons.org/>

2 <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/>

3 <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/legalcode/>

4 <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/legalcode/>

# 1. How to use the Linux Manual

## 1.1. Introduction

To access the Linux/UNIX Manual for a particular command, simply type:

```
$ man <command>
```

**Note:** DO NOT type the angled brackets <>

The manual page for the command should then be presented. You can move up and down the manual page using the **<Page Up>** and **<Page Down>** keys.

## 1.2. Searching for a text string in the manual page

Once you have the manual page open for the particular command you are interested in, you can search for any text string using the **/** key. Simply type **/** followed (without spaces) by the text string you wish to find:

```
/text_string
```

Use the **"n"** key to search for the next occurrence in the manual page. Use the **"N"** key to search backwards!

When you're finished reading the manual page, use **"q"** key to quit.

## 1.3. Other Ways to Access the Linux Manual Pages

There is a nice graphical application available for viewing Linux manual pages. It is called **xman**. But you need to install it using the **"Configure Your Computer"** tool.

Then, either run it from the menu system, or at a command prompt, type:

```
$ xman
```

---

Ends