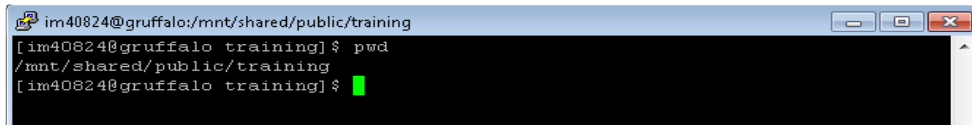


# Linux Handy Hints

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## Where am I!?

If you get lost, **pwd** will always tell you where you are, but you can also take a glance at PuTTY's title bar. Note how it tells you too!

A screenshot of a PuTTY terminal window. The title bar at the top reads 'im40824@gruffalo:/mnt/shared/public/training'. The terminal shows a user prompt '[im40824@gruffalo training] \$' followed by the command 'pwd'. The output is '/mnt/shared/public/training'. Below the output, the prompt is shown again with a green cursor.

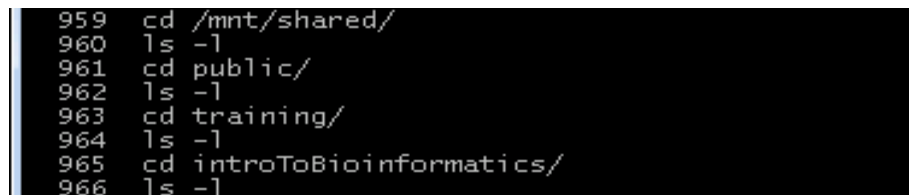
## Special keys

Typing long file or directory names is annoying, but luckily there's an easier way. You only need to type *part* of a name and then hit the **TAB** key – Linux will autocomplete the rest of it for you. You can also use **HOME** to jump the cursor to the start of a line, and **END** to jump to the end of a line.

## What have I done?

The up and down arrow keys can be used to scroll backwards and forwards through recently entered commands. Resubmit a command by hitting **ENTER**, or even edit and then resubmit – this is great for when you've mistyped a long path and need to try again without having to retype everything.

You can also use the **history** command to display a recent history of everything you've typed:

A screenshot of a terminal window showing the output of the 'history' command. The output is a list of commands with line numbers: 959 cd /mnt/shared/, 960 ls -l, 961 cd public/, 962 ls -l, 963 cd training/, 964 ls -l, 965 cd introToBioinformatics/, and 966 ls -l.

If you see an entry you want to re-run, use the **!** (always called *bang* in the Linux world), followed by the number of the command as shown by **history**. For example:

**!960**

You can use **!!** on its own to instantly repeat the previous command.

## Using the mouse in the command line

You can't click the mouse cursor around the Linux command prompt like you're used to, but it *does* still offer basic cut and paste. Drag with the mouse to highlight text, then simply right-click to paste it back into the window. You can also double-click a word (eg a filename) and instantly copy it into your current command with a right-click.