

# Basic Linux Commands – Cheat Sheet (for OS Lab)

Command	Description
<b>pwd</b>	Displays the absolute path of the current working directory.
<b>cd</b>	Used to change or navigate directories. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- cd absolutePath → moves to given full path.</li><li>- cd folderName → moves into that folder.</li><li>- cd .. → goes one level back.</li><li>- cd / → root directory.</li><li>- cd ~ → home directory.</li></ul>
<b>echo</b>	Displays a string or variable value on terminal. Example: name="Piyush" echo "My name is \$name"
<b>ls</b>	Lists files and folders in the directory. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- ls → list all</li><li>- ls -l → long format</li><li>- ls -a → includes hidden files</li><li>- ls -R → recursive listing</li></ul>
<b>read</b>	Takes input from the user. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- read name → one input</li><li>- read firstname lastname → multiple inputs</li><li>- read -s password → hides input</li><li>- read -t 5 variable → waits 5 sec for input</li><li>- read -n 1 -p "Continue? (y/n): " choice → single character input</li></ul>
<b>cat</b>	View, create, or combine text files. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- cat filename.txt → view file</li><li>- cat &gt; filename.txt → create file</li><li>- cat file1 file2 &gt; file3 → merge</li><li>- cat file   tr a-z A-Z &gt; output.txt → uppercase conversion</li></ul>
<b>grep</b>	Search for a word or pattern in a file. Example: grep word filename.txt
<b>touch</b>	Creates a new empty file or updates timestamp. Example: touch web.html
<b>mkdir</b>	Creates a new directory. Example: mkdir myFolder
<b>rmdir</b>	Removes an empty directory. Example: rmdir myFolder
<b>rm</b>	Deletes files or directories. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- rm file.txt → remove file</li><li>- rm -r folder → remove folder recursively</li><li>- rm -i file.txt → ask before deleting</li></ul>
<b>sed</b>	Stream editor – used for find and replace in files. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- sed 's/old/new/' filename.txt → replaces first occurrence per line</li><li>- sed 's/old/new/g' filename.txt → replaces all occurrences</li><li>- sed 's/old/new/Ig' → ignore case + global replacement</li></ul>