



# Unix/Linux cheat sheet

## Navigation Commands

pwd	print working directory (dir) - shows what dir you're in
ls	list the contents of a dir
ls -l	list the contents of a dir and show extra info about the files
ls -a	list all files, including hidden files
cd	change directory
cd ..	go to the parent directory
cd ~	go to your home directory
exit	log out of the current session
↑,↓	scroll through command history
[tab key]	autocomplete current command/filename
ctrl-a	jump to the start of current command line
ctrl-e	jump to the end of current command line

## Examining files

file	determine the type of a file
cat	concatenate a file
less	view text files
head	view first 10 lines of a file
head -n x	view first x lines of a file
tail	view last 10 lines of a file
tail -n x	view last x lines of a file
grep	locate a pattern in a file (or files)

## Manipulating files and directories

cp	copy a file
cp -i	copy a file and ask before overwriting
cp -r	copy a directory with its contents
mv x y	move or rename a file x to y
mv -i	move or rename a file and ask before overwriting
rm	remove a file
rm -r	remove a directory with its contents

### **Manipulating files and directories (cont.)**

rm -i	ask before removing a file. Good to use with the -r option
mkdir	make a directory
rmdir	remove an empty directory
chmod	change permissions of a file
sort	sort files (merges too) (useful: --ignore-case and --key=x)

### **Internet**

wget	download a file
ssh	connect via secure shell to a machine
scp	upload/download files, examples: upload: scp local_source user@host:~/destination download: scp user@host:~/remote_source local_destination

### **Multi-tasking**

ctrl+z	stops whatever program you are using
bg	lists stopped jobs; resumes the last stopped job and runs it in the background
jobs	lists stopped or backgrounded jobs
fg	brings most recent backgrounded job to the foreground
fg x	brings job x to the foreground
ctrl+c	terminates whatever program you are using (permanently)

### **Compression**

tar -cvf	create a tar archive
tar -xvf	extract a tar archive
tar -czvf	create a tar.gz (gzip'ed) archive
tar -xzvf	extract/unzip a tar.gz archive
zip	zip a file
unzip	un-zip a file
gzip	gzip a file
gunzip	un-gzip a file

### **Pipe tools**

wc	word-count (and lines, and bytes)
sort	sort (by default on first column)
uniq	merge repeated lines
tr	translate characters
tee	save intermediate results

*For help with any of the above commands, try these commands:*

### **Help Commands**

man	read manual for a command
man -k	search for manual page via a keyword
whereis x	show locations for application x
which x	show which application x will be run by default