

Use this handy cheat sheet with examples for how to manage Linux users and permissions.

ADD USERS

CREATE A USER (CALLED "ASHLEY")

```
useradd --create-home ashley
```

CREATE A USER IN GROUPS "USERS" AND "DEV"

```
useradd --create-home --groups users dev ashley
```

CREATE A USER WITH THE UID 1337

```
useradd --create-home --uid 1337 ashley
```

CREATE OR CHANGE A USER PASSWORD

```
passwd ashley  
<enter password>
```

ADD USER TO A GROUP ("CODER")

```
usermod --append --groups coder ashley
```

DELETE USERS

REMOVE A USER FROM A GROUP ("CODER")

```
gpasswd ashley coder
```

DELETE A USER FROM THE SYSTEM

```
userdel ashley
```

DELETE A USER AND ALL USER DATA FROM THE SYSTEM

```
userdel --remove ashley
```

HISTORY

SHOW WHICH USERS ARE CURRENTLY LOGGED IN

```
w
```

SHOW LOGIN HISTORY

```
last
```

PERMISSIONS

SET DEFAULT OWNERSHIP OF FILES TO 755

```
echo "umask 022" >> /etc/profile
```

SET DEFAULT OWNERSHIP OF FILES TO 770

```
echo "umask 002" >> /etc/profile
```

CHANGE OWNERSHIP OF A FILE ("EXAMPLE.TXT") TO USER ("ASHLEY")

```
chown ashley:users example.txt
```

GIVE READ PERMISSION TO USER, GROUP, AND OTHERS

```
chmod ugo+r example.txt
```

GIVE WRITE PERMISSION TO USER AND GROUP

```
chmod ug+w example.txt
```

REMOVE WRITE PERMISSION TO A FILE FOR GROUP MEMBERS

```
chmod g-w example.txt
```

MAKE A FILE EXECUTABLE

```
chmod +x example.txt
```

LOG IN AS A DIFFERENT USER

```
su - ashley
```

RUN A COMMAND ("LS") AS A DIFFERENT USER

```
su - ashley --command ls
```

Log in as a different user Run a command as a different user