**Unix Commands**

This quick guide lists commands, including a syntax and brief description. For more detail, use –

**$man command**

**Files and Directories**

These commands allow you to create directories and handle files.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Command** | **Description** |
| cat | Display File Contents |
| cd | Changes Directory to dirname |
| chgrp | change file group |
| chmod | Changing Permissions |
| cp | Copy source file into destination |
| file | Determine file type |
| find | Find files |
| grep | Search files for regular expressions. |
| head | Display first few lines of a file |
| ln | Create softlink on oldname |
| ls | Display information about file type. |
| mkdir | Create a new directory dirname |
| more | Display data in paginated form. |
| mv | Move (Rename) a oldname to newname. |
| pwd | Print current working directory. |
| rm | Remove (Delete) filename |
| rmdir | Delete an existing directory provided it is empty. |
| tail | Prints last few lines in a file. |
| touch | Update access and modification time of a file. |

**Manipulating data**

The contents of files can be compared and altered with the following commands.

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| --- | --- |
| **Command** | **Description** |
| awk | Pattern scanning and processing language |
| cmp | Compare the contents of two files |
| comm | Compare sorted data |
| cut | Cut out selected fields of each line of a file |
| diff | Differential file comparator |
| expand | Expand tabs to spaces |
| join | Join files on some common field |
| perl | Data manipulation language |
| sed | Stream text editor |
| sort | Sort file data |
| split | Split file into smaller files |
| tr | Translate characters |
| uniq | Report repeated lines in a file |
| wc | Count words, lines, and characters |
| vi | Opens vi text editor |
| vim | Opens vim text editor |
| fmt | Simple text formatter |
| spell | Check text for spelling error |
| ispell | Check text for spelling error |
| ispell | Check text for spelling error |
| emacs | GNU project Emacs |
| ex, edit | Line editor |
| emacs | GNU project Emacs |
| emacs | GNU project Emacs |

**Compressed Files**

Files may be compressed to save space. Compressed files can be created and examined

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Command** | **Description** |
| compress | Compress files |
| gunzip | Uncompress gzipped files |
| gzip | GNU alternative compression method |
| uncompress | Uncompress files |
| unzip | List, test and extract compressed files in a ZIP archive |
| zcat | Cat a compressed file |
| zcmp | Compare compressed files |
| zdiff | Compare compressed files |
| zmore | File perusal filter for crt viewing of compressed text |

**Getting Information**

Various Unix manuals and documentation are available on-line. The following Shell commands give information

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Command** | **Description** |
| apropos | Locate commands by keyword lookup |
| info | Displays command information pages online |
| man | Displays manual pages online |
| whatis | Search the whatis database for complete words. |
| yelp | GNOME help viewer |

**Network Communication**

These following commands are used to send and receive files from a local UNIX hosts to the remote host around the world.

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| --- | --- |
| **Command** | **Description** |
| ftp | File transfer program |
| rcp | Remote file copy |
| rlogin | Remote login to a UNIX host |
| rsh | Remote shell |
| tftp | Trivial file transfer program |
| telnet | Make terminal connection to another host |
| ssh | Secure shell terminal or command connection |
| scp | Secure shell remote file copy |
| sftp | secure shell file transfer program |

**\*Some of these commands may be restricted at your computer for security reasons.**

**Messages between Users**

The UNIX systems support on-screen messages to other users and world-wide electronic mail

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Command** | **Description** |
| evolution | GUI mail handling tool on Linux |
| mail | Simple send or read mail program |
| mesg | Permit or deny messages |
| parcel | Send files to another user |
| pine | Vdu-based mail utility |
| talk | Talk to another user |
| write | Write message to another user |

**Programming Utilities**

The following programming tools and languages are available based on what you have installed on your Unix.

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| --- | --- |
| **Command** | **Description** |
| dbx | Sun debugger |
| gdb | GNU debugger |
| make | Maintain program groups and compile programs. |
| nm | Print program's name list |
| size | Print program's sizes |
| strip | Remove symbol table and relocation bits |
| cb | C program beautifier |
| cc | ANSI C compiler for Suns SPARC systems |
| ctrace | C program debugger |
| gcc | GNU ANSI C Compiler |
| indent | Indent and format C program source |
| bc | Interactive arithmetic language processor |
| gcl | GNU Common Lisp |
| perl | General purpose language |
| php | Web page embedded language |
| py | Python language interpreter |
| asp | Web page embedded language |
| CC | C++ compiler for Suns SPARC systems |
| g++ | GNU C++ Compiler |
| javac | JAVA compiler |
| appletvieweir | JAVA applet viewer |
| netbeans | Java integrated development environment on Linux |
| sqlplus | Run the Oracle SQL interpreter |
| sqlldr | Run the Oracle SQL data loader |
| mysql | Run the mysql SQL interpreter |

**Misc Commands**

These commands list or alter information about the system - td>groups

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Command** | **Description** |
| chfn | Change your finger information |
| chgrp | Change the group ownership of a file |
| chown | Change owner |
| date | Print the date |
| determin | Automatically find terminal type |
| du | Print amount of disk usage |
| echo | Echo arguments to the standard options |
| exit | Quit the system |
| finger | Print information about logged-in users |
| groupadd | Create a user group |
| Show group memberships |  |
| homequota | Show quota and file usage |
| iostat | Report I/O statistics |
| kill | Send a signal to a process |
| last | Show last logins of users |
| logout | log off UNIX |
| lun | List user names or login ID |
| netstat | Show network status |
| passwd | Change user password |
| passwd | Change your login password |
| printenv | Display value of a shell variable |
| ps | Display the status of current processes |
| ps | Print process status statistics |
| quota -v | Display disk usage and limits |
| reset | Reset terminal mode |
| script | Keep script of terminal session |
| script | Save the output of a command or process |
| setenv | Set environment variables |
| stty | Set terminal options |
| time | Time a command |
| top | Display all system processes |
| tset | Set terminal mode |
| tty | Print current terminal name |
| umask | Show the permissions that are given to view files by default |
| uname | Display name of the current system |
| uptime | Get the system up time |
| useradd | Create a user account |
| users | Print names of logged in users |
| vmstat | Report virtual memory statistics |
| w | Show what logged in users are doing |
| who | List logged in users |