**Basic Linux Commands**

# tty Shows the current logged in terminal  
# whoami shows the currently logged in user  
# which "[command](javascript:void(0);) name" reveals where in the search path a program is located  
# [echo](javascript:void(0);) prints to the screen  
# echo $PATH  dumps the current path to STDOUT  
# echo $PWD     dumps ths contents of the $PWD variable  
# echo $OLDPWD  dumps the most recently visited [directory](javascript:void(0);)  
# clear         clears the screen or terminal  
# reset         resets the screen buffer  
# history       reveals your command history  
# !110  executes the 110th command in our history

**Files and Directories**

# ls             list the [files](javascript:void(0);) and [directories](javascript:void(0);) in the present working directories  
# ls -ltr        sort the [files](javascript:void(0);) in the last modification time in reverse order  
# ls -a          list all the files including hidden files and directories ( all files starting with "." are hidden files)  
# ls -l          long list of all files and directories where you can check the relative permission on each file.

# mkdir "[directory](javascript:void(0);) name"                 Create directory  
# mkdir -p /"dir1"/"dir2"/"dir3"/        Create directory including parent dir  
# touch "filename"                       Create files

# cp "dir1"  /[root](javascript:void(0);)/    copy directory or file to another location  
# mv dir1  /[root](javascript:void(0);)/      move or rename the dir or file to different location  
# rm "dir name"        To remove directory  
# rm -rf "dir name"    To remove a directory recursively and forcefully

For further switches to be used with any of the above commands you can check using

# man "command name"  
# "command name" --help  
  
**For example:**  
# rm --help  
# mkdir --help  
# ls --help  
  
# cd            with no options changes to the $HOME directory  
# cd ~          changes to the $HOME directory  
# cd /          changes to the root of the file system  
# cd [Desktop](javascript:void(0);)/   changes us to the relative directory 'Desktop'  
# cd ..         changes us one-level up in the directory [tree](javascript:void(0);)  
# cd ../..      changes us two-levels up in the directory tree

**User and Group related**

# useradd "username"                      creates a user  
# passwd "username"                       Assign [password](javascript:void(0);) to user  
# groupadd "groupname"                    creates a [group](javascript:void(0);)  
# usermod -a -G "groupname" "username"    Add existing user to group  
# groupmod -A username groupname          Add existing user to group  
  
# useradd -d "directory name" -s "shell" -g "group name" -u "UID" "username"                                 Creates user with provided details

**Command chain**

# head /var/log/messages      [displays](javascript:void(0);) opening lines of text files  
# head -10 /var/log/messages  displays opening 10 lines of text files  
# tail /var/log/messages      displays the [closing](javascript:void(0);) lines of text files  
# tail -10 /var/log/messages  displays the closing 10 lines of text files  
# wc -l /var/log/messages     counts words and optionally lines of text files