



Linux Fundamentals

Lesson 3 Manipulating Files

Lesson Objectives

In this lesson, you will learn:

- Directory manipulation.
- File manipulation

Directory Manipulation

Creating a Directory

- `mkdir amal`
- `mkdir -p linuxtutorialwork/foo/bar`
- `mkdir -pv linuxtutorialwork/foo/bar`

Copying a Directory

- `cp example1 barney`

Renaming/Moving a Directory

- `mv barney backups`

Deleting an Empty Directory

- `rmdir linuxtutorialwork/foo/bar`

Deleting a Non-Empty Directory

- `rm -r backups`

File Manipulation

Creating a File

- `touch file.txt`
- `cat > file.txt`
- `vi file.txt`

Copying a File

- `cp example1.txt barney.txt`

Renaming/Moving a File

- `mv foo2.txt backups/foo3.txt`

Deleting a File

- `rm bar.txt`

File Extensions and Content

.c	C program source code
.gz	gzip compressed file
.tar	Tape archive, used by tar command
.zip	Zipped (compressed) file, from zip command
.profile	Profile Files
.log	Log Files

Displaying Files

cat:

cat command can also be used for displaying contents of file.

- Ex: cat file.txt

It can also display the contents of more than one file.

- Ex: cat file1.txt file2.txt

More:

The more command, from the University of California, Berkeley, is a paging tool.

The more command is used to view one page at a time. It is particularly useful for viewing large files.

- Syntax: more <options> <+linenumber> <+/pattern> <filename(s)>
- Ex: \$ more file1.txt

Previewing Files

Head command:

- The head command, by default, will display the first 10 lines of a file.
Ex: `$head employee.txt`
- To display first 5 lines from file employee:
Ex: `head -n 5 employee.txt`

Tail command:

The tail command is useful to display last few lines or characters of the file.

- By default it displays last ten lines from the file.
Ex: `tail employee.txt`
- To display last seven lines:
Ex: `$tail -7 employee`
- To display last 5 characters of the file:
Ex: `$tail -5c employee`

Summary

In this lesson you have learnt

- Directory manipulation.
- File manipulation.
- Previewing files.

Review Questions

Question 1: _____ is a horizontal filter which displays given top lines of a file.

Question 2: By default tail displays _____.

Questions 3: ____ command creates a file without opening it.