# An A-Z Index of the Linux command line: bash + utilities.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| A |  |  |
|  | [&](https://ss64.com/bash/bg.html) | Start a new process in the background |
|  | [alias](https://ss64.com/bash/alias.html) | Create an alias • |
|  | apropos | Search Help manual pages (man -k) |
|  | [apt](https://ss64.com/bash/apt.html) | Search for and install software packages (Debian/Ubuntu) |
|  | [apt-get](https://ss64.com/bash/apt-get.html) | Search for and install software packages (Debian/Ubuntu) |
|  | [aptitude](https://ss64.com/bash/aptitude.html) | Search for and install software packages (Debian/Ubuntu) |
|  | [aspell](https://ss64.com/bash/aspell.html) | Spell Checker |
|  | [at](https://ss64.com/bash/at.html) | Schedule a command to run once at a particular time |
|  | [awk](https://ss64.com/bash/awk.html) | Find and Replace text, database sort/validate/index |
| B |  |  |
|  | [basename](https://ss64.com/bash/basename.html) | Strip directory and suffix from filenames |
|  | [base32](https://ss64.com/bash/base32.html) | Base32 encode/decode data and print to standard output |
|  | [base64](https://ss64.com/bash/base64.html) | Base64 encode/decode data and print to standard output |
|  | [bash](https://ss64.com/bash/bash.html) | GNU Bourne-Again SHell |
|  | [bc](https://ss64.com/bash/bc.html) | Arbitrary precision calculator language |
|  | [bg](https://ss64.com/bash/bg.html) | Send to background |
|  | [bind](https://ss64.com/bash/bind.html) | Set or display readline key and function bindings • |
|  | [break](https://ss64.com/bash/break.html) | Exit from a loop • |
|  | [builtin](https://ss64.com/bash/builtin.html) | Run a shell builtin |
|  | [bzip2](https://ss64.com/bash/bzip2.html) | Compress or decompress named file(s) |
| C |  |  |
|  | [cal](https://ss64.com/bash/cal.html) | Display a calendar |
|  | [case](https://ss64.com/bash/case.html) | Conditionally perform a command |
|  | [cat](https://ss64.com/bash/cat.html) | Concatenate and print (display) the content of files |
|  | [cd](https://ss64.com/bash/cd.html) | Change Directory |
|  | [cfdisk](https://ss64.com/bash/cfdisk.html) | Partition table manipulator for Linux |
|  | [chattr](https://ss64.com/bash/chattr.html) | Change file attributes on a Linux file system |
|  | [chgrp](https://ss64.com/bash/chgrp.html) | Change group ownership |
|  | [chmod](https://ss64.com/bash/chmod.html) | Change access permissions |
|  | [chown](https://ss64.com/bash/chown.html) | Change file owner and group |
|  | [chpasswd](https://ss64.com/bash/chpasswd.html) | Update passwords in batch mode |
|  | [chroot](https://ss64.com/bash/chroot.html) | Run a command with a different root directory |
|  | [chkconfig](https://ss64.com/bash/chkconfig.html) | System services (runlevel) |
|  | [cksum](https://ss64.com/bash/cksum.html) | Print CRC checksum and byte counts |
|  | clear | Clear terminal screen |
|  | [cmp](https://ss64.com/bash/cmp.html) | Compare two files |
|  | [comm](https://ss64.com/bash/comm.html) | Compare two sorted files line by line |
|  | [command](https://ss64.com/bash/command.html) | Run a command - ignoring shell functions • |
|  | [continue](https://ss64.com/bash/continue.html) | Resume the next iteration of a loop • |
|  | [cp](https://ss64.com/bash/cp.html) | Copy one or more files to another location |
|  | [cpio](https://ss64.com/bash/cpio.html) | Copy files to and from archives |
|  | [cron](https://ss64.com/bash/cron.html) | Daemon to execute scheduled commands |
|  | [crontab](https://ss64.com/bash/crontab.html) | Schedule a command to run at a later time |
|  | [csplit](https://ss64.com/bash/csplit.html) | Split a file into context-determined pieces |
|  | [curl](https://ss64.com/bash/curl.html) | Transfer data from or to a server |
|  | [cut](https://ss64.com/bash/cut.html) | Divide a file into several parts |
| D |  |  |
|  | [date](https://ss64.com/bash/date.html) | Display or change the date & time |
|  | [dc](https://ss64.com/bash/dc.html) | Desk Calculator |
|  | [dd](https://ss64.com/bash/dd.html) | Data Duplicator - convert and copy a file, write disk headers, boot records |
|  | [ddrescue](https://ss64.com/bash/ddrescue.html) | Data recovery tool |
|  | [declare](https://ss64.com/bash/declare.html) | Declare variables and give them attributes • |
|  | [df](https://ss64.com/bash/df.html) | Display free disk space |
|  | [diff](https://ss64.com/bash/diff.html) | Display the differences between two files |
|  | [diff3](https://ss64.com/bash/diff3.html) | Show differences among three files |
|  | [dig](https://ss64.com/bash/dig.html) | DNS lookup |
|  | [dir](https://ss64.com/bash/dir.html) | Briefly list directory contents |
|  | [dircolors](https://ss64.com/bash/dircolors.html) | Colour setup for 'ls' |
|  | [dirname](https://ss64.com/bash/dirname.html) | Convert a full pathname to just a path |
|  | [dirs](https://ss64.com/bash/dirs.html) | Display list of remembered directories |
|  | [dmesg](https://ss64.com/bash/dmesg.html) | Print kernel & driver messages |
|  | [dpkg](https://ss64.com/bash/dpkg.html) | Package manager (Debian/Ubuntu). |
|  | [du](https://ss64.com/bash/du.html) | Estimate file space usage |
| E |  |  |
|  | [echo](https://ss64.com/bash/echo.html) | Display message on screen • |
|  | [egrep](https://ss64.com/bash/egrep.html) | Search file(s) for lines that match an extended expression |
|  | [eject](https://ss64.com/bash/eject.html) | Eject removable media |
|  | [enable](https://ss64.com/bash/enable.html) | Enable and disable builtin shell commands • |
|  | [env](https://ss64.com/bash/env.html) | Environment variables |
|  | ethtool | Ethernet card settings |
|  | [eval](https://ss64.com/bash/eval.html) | Evaluate several commands/arguments |
|  | [exec](https://ss64.com/bash/exec.html) | Execute a command |
|  | [exit](https://ss64.com/bash/exit.html) | Exit the shell |
|  | [expect](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Expect) | Automate arbitrary applications accessed over a terminal |
|  | [expand](https://ss64.com/bash/expand.html) | Convert tabs to spaces |
|  | [export](https://ss64.com/bash/export.html) | Set an environment variable |
|  | [expr](https://ss64.com/bash/expr.html) | Evaluate expressions |
| F |  |  |
|  | [false](https://ss64.com/bash/false.html) | Do nothing, unsuccessfully |
|  | [fdformat](https://ss64.com/bash/fdformat.html) | Low-level format a floppy disk |
|  | [fdisk](https://ss64.com/bash/fdisk.html) | Partition table manipulator for Linux |
|  | [fg](https://ss64.com/bash/fg.html) | Send job to foreground |
|  | [fgrep](https://ss64.com/bash/fgrep.html) | Search file(s) for lines that match a fixed string |
|  | [file](https://ss64.com/bash/file.html) | Determine file type |
|  | [find](https://ss64.com/bash/find.html) | Search for files that meet a desired criteria |
|  | [fmt](https://ss64.com/bash/fmt.html) | Reformat paragraph text |
|  | [fold](https://ss64.com/bash/fold.html) | Wrap text to fit a specified width |
|  | [for](https://ss64.com/bash/for.html) | Expand *words*, and execute *commands* |
|  | format | Format disks or tapes |
|  | free | Display memory usage |
|  | [fsck](https://ss64.com/bash/fsck.html) | File system consistency check and repair |
|  | [ftp](https://ss64.com/bash/ftp.html) | File Transfer Protocol |
|  | [function](https://ss64.com/bash/function.html) | Define Function Macros |
|  | [fuser](https://ss64.com/bash/fuser.html) | Identify/kill the process that is accessing a file |
| G |  |  |
|  | [gawk](https://ss64.com/bash/awk.html) | Find and Replace text within file(s) |
|  | [getopts](https://ss64.com/bash/getopts.html) | Parse positional parameters |
|  | [grep](https://ss64.com/bash/grep.html) | Search file(s) for lines that match a given pattern |
|  | [groupadd](https://ss64.com/bash/groupadd.html) | Add a user security group |
|  | [groupdel](https://ss64.com/bash/groupdel.html) | Delete a group |
|  | [groupmod](https://ss64.com/bash/groupmod.html) | Modify a group |
|  | [groups](https://ss64.com/bash/groups.html) | Print group names a user is in |
|  | [gzip](https://ss64.com/bash/gzip.html) | Compress or decompress named file(s) |
| H |  |  |
|  | [hash](https://ss64.com/bash/hash.html) | Remember the full pathname of a name argument |
|  | [head](https://ss64.com/bash/head.html) | Output the first part of file(s) |
|  | help | Display help for a built-in command • |
|  | [history](https://ss64.com/bash/history.html) | Command History |
|  | [hostname](https://ss64.com/bash/hostname.html) | Print or set system name |
|  | [htop](https://ss64.com/bash/htop.html) | Interactive process viewer |
| I |  |  |
|  | [iconv](https://ss64.com/bash/iconv.html) | Convert the character set of a file |
|  | [id](https://ss64.com/bash/id.html) | Print user and group id's |
|  | [if](https://ss64.com/bash/if.html) | Conditionally perform a command |
|  | [ifconfig](https://ss64.com/bash/ifconfig.html) | Configure a network interface |
|  | [ifdown](https://ss64.com/bash/ifup.html) | Stop a network interface |
|  | [ifup](https://ss64.com/bash/ifup.html) | Start a network interface up |
|  | [import](https://ss64.com/bash/import.html) | Capture an X server screen and save the image to file |
|  | [install](https://ss64.com/bash/install.html) | Copy files and set attributes |
|  | [iostat](https://ss64.com/bash/iostat.html) | Report CPU and i/o statistics |
|  | [ip](https://ss64.com/bash/ip.html) | Routing, devices and tunnels |
| J |  |  |
|  | [jobs](https://ss64.com/bash/jobs.html) | List active jobs • |
|  | [join](https://ss64.com/bash/join.html) | Join lines on a common field |
| K |  |  |
|  | [kill](https://ss64.com/bash/kill.html) | Kill a process by specifying its PID |
|  | [killall](https://ss64.com/bash/killall.html) | Kill processes by name |
| L |  |  |
|  | [less](https://ss64.com/bash/less.html) | Display output one screen at a time |
|  | [let](https://ss64.com/bash/let.html) | Perform arithmetic on shell variables • |
|  | [link](https://ss64.com/bash/link.html) | Create a link to a file |
|  | [ln](https://ss64.com/bash/ln.html) | Create a symbolic link to a file |
|  | [local](https://ss64.com/bash/local.html) | Create a function variable • |
|  | [locate](https://ss64.com/bash/locate.html) | Find files |
|  | [logname](https://ss64.com/bash/logname.html) | Print current login name |
|  | [logout](https://ss64.com/bash/logout.html) | Exit a login shell • |
|  | [look](https://ss64.com/bash/look.html) | Display lines beginning with a given string |
|  | [lpc](https://ss64.com/bash/lpc.html) | Line printer control program |
|  | [lpr](https://ss64.com/bash/lpr.html) | Off line print |
|  | lprint | Print a file |
|  | lprintd | Delete a print job |
|  | lprintq | List the print queue |
|  | [lprm](https://ss64.com/bash/lprm.html) | Remove jobs from the print queue |
|  | [lsattr](https://ss64.com/bash/lsattr.html) | List file attributes on a Linux second extended file system |
|  | [lsblk](https://ss64.com/bash/lsblk.html) | List block devices |
|  | [ls](https://ss64.com/bash/ls.html) | List information about file(s) |
|  | [lsof](https://ss64.com/bash/lsof.html) | List open files |
|  | [lspci](https://ss64.com/bash/lspci.html) | List all PCI devices |
| M |  |  |
|  | make | Recompile a group of programs |
|  | [man](https://ss64.com/bash/man.html) | Help manual |
|  | [mapfile](https://ss64.com/bash/mapfile.html) | Read lines from standard input into an indexed array variable |
|  | [mkdir](https://ss64.com/bash/mkdir.html) | Create new folder(s) |
|  | [mkfifo](https://ss64.com/bash/mkfifo.html) | Make FIFOs (named pipes) |
|  | [mkfile](https://ss64.com/bash/mkfile.html) | Make a file |
|  | mkisofs | Create a hybrid ISO9660/JOLIET/HFS filesystem |
|  | [mknod](https://ss64.com/bash/mknod.html) | Make block or character special files |
|  | [mktemp](https://ss64.com/bash/mktemp.html) | Make a temporary file |
|  | [more](https://ss64.com/bash/more.html) | Display output one screen at a time |
|  | [most](https://ss64.com/bash/most.html) | Browse or page through a text file |
|  | [mount](https://ss64.com/bash/mount.html) | Mount a file system |
|  | [mtools](https://ss64.com/bash/mtools.html) | Manipulate MS-DOS files |
|  | [mtr](https://ss64.com/bash/mtr.html) | Network diagnostics (traceroute/ping) |
|  | [mv](https://ss64.com/bash/mv.html) | Move or rename files or directories |
|  | [mmv](https://ss64.com/bash/mmv.html) | Mass Move and rename (files) |
| N |  |  |
|  | [nc](https://ss64.com/bash/nc.html) | Netcat, read and write data across networks |
|  | [netstat](https://ss64.com/bash/netstat.html) | Networking connections/stats |
|  | [nft](https://ss64.com/bash/nft.html) | nftables for packet filtering and classification |
|  | [nice](https://ss64.com/bash/nice.html) | Set the priority of a command or job |
|  | [nl](https://ss64.com/bash/nl.html) | Number lines and write files |
|  | [nohup](https://ss64.com/bash/nohup.html) | Run a command immune to hangups |
|  | [notify-send](https://ss64.com/bash/notify-send.html) | Send desktop notifications |
|  | [nslookup](https://ss64.com/bash/nslookup.html) | Query Internet name servers interactively |
| O |  |  |
|  | [open](https://ss64.com/bash/open.html) | Open a file in its default application |
|  | [op](https://ss64.com/bash/op.html) | Operator access |
| P |  |  |
|  | [passwd](https://ss64.com/bash/passwd.html) | Modify a user password |
|  | [paste](https://ss64.com/bash/paste.html) | Merge lines of files |
|  | pathchk | Check file name portability |
|  | [Perf](https://ss64.com/bash/perf.html) | Performance analysis tools for Linux |
|  | [ping](https://ss64.com/bash/ping.html) | Test a network connection |
|  | [pgrep](https://ss64.com/bash/pkill.html) | List processes by name |
|  | [pkill](https://ss64.com/bash/pkill.html) | Kill processes by name |
|  | [popd](https://ss64.com/bash/popd.html) | Restore the previous value of the current directory |
|  | [pr](https://ss64.com/bash/pr.html) | Prepare files for printing |
|  | printcap | Printer capability database |
|  | [printenv](https://ss64.com/bash/printenv.html) | Print environment variables |
|  | [printf](https://ss64.com/bash/printf.html) | Format and print data • |
|  | [ps](https://ss64.com/bash/ps.html) | Process status |
|  | [pushd](https://ss64.com/bash/pushd.html) | Save and then change the current directory |
|  | [pv](https://ss64.com/bash/pv.html) | Monitor the progress of data through a pipe |
|  | [pwd](https://ss64.com/bash/pwd.html) | Print Working Directory |
| Q |  |  |
|  | [quota](https://ss64.com/bash/quota.html) | Display disk usage and limits |
|  | [quotacheck](https://ss64.com/bash/quotacheck.html) | Scan a file system for disk usage |
| R |  |  |
|  | [ram](https://ss64.com/bash/ram.html) | ram disk device |
|  | [rar](https://ss64.com/bash/rar.html) | Archive files with compression |
|  | [rcp](https://ss64.com/bash/rcp.html) | Copy files between two machines |
|  | [read](https://ss64.com/bash/read.html) | Read a line from standard input • |
|  | readarray | Read from stdin into an array variable • |
|  | [readonly](https://ss64.com/bash/readonly.html) | Mark variables/functions as readonly |
|  | reboot | Reboot the system |
|  | [rename](https://ss64.com/bash/rename.html) | Rename files |
|  | renice | Alter priority of running processes |
|  | remsync | Synchronize remote files via email |
|  | [return](https://ss64.com/bash/return.html) | Exit a shell function |
|  | [rev](https://ss64.com/bash/rev.html) | Reverse lines of a file |
|  | [rm](https://ss64.com/bash/rm.html) | Remove files |
|  | [rmdir](https://ss64.com/bash/rmdir.html) | Remove folder(s) |
|  | [rsync](https://ss64.com/bash/rsync.html) | Remote file copy (Synchronize file trees) |
| S |  |  |
|  | [screen](https://ss64.com/bash/screen.html) | Multiplex terminal, run remote shells via ssh |
|  | [scp](https://ss64.com/bash/scp.html) | Secure copy (remote file copy) |
|  | [sdiff](https://ss64.com/bash/sdiff.html) | Merge two files interactively |
|  | [sed](https://ss64.com/bash/sed.html) | Stream Editor |
|  | [select](https://ss64.com/bash/select.html) | Accept keyboard input |
|  | [seq](https://ss64.com/bash/seq.html) | Print numeric sequences |
|  | [set](https://ss64.com/bash/set.html) | Manipulate shell variables and functions |
|  | sftp | Secure File Transfer Program |
|  | [shift](https://ss64.com/bash/shift.html) | Shift positional parameters |
|  | [shopt](https://ss64.com/bash/shopt.html) | Shell Options |
|  | [shutdown](https://ss64.com/bash/shutdown.html) | Shutdown or restart linux |
|  | [sleep](https://ss64.com/bash/sleep.html) | Delay for a specified time |
|  | [slocate](https://ss64.com/bash/slocate.html) | Find files |
|  | [sort](https://ss64.com/bash/sort.html) | Sort text files |
|  | [source](https://ss64.com/bash/source.html) | Run commands from a file '.' |
|  | [split](https://ss64.com/bash/split.html) | Split a file into fixed-size pieces |
|  | [ss](https://ss64.com/bash/ss.html) | Socket Statistics |
|  | [ssh](https://ss64.com/bash/ssh.html) | Secure Shell client (remote login program) |
|  | [stat](https://ss64.com/bash/stat.html) | Display file or file system status |
|  | [strace](https://ss64.com/bash/strace.html) | Trace system calls and signals |
|  | [su](https://ss64.com/bash/su.html) | Substitute user identity |
|  | [sudo](https://ss64.com/bash/sudo.html) | Execute a command as another user |
|  | [sum](https://ss64.com/bash/sum.html) | Print a checksum for a file |
|  | [suspend](https://ss64.com/bash/suspend.html) | Suspend execution of this shell • |
|  | [sync](https://ss64.com/bash/sync.html) | Synchronize data on disk with memory |
| T |  |  |
|  | [tail](https://ss64.com/bash/tail.html) | Output the last part of a file |
|  | [tar](https://ss64.com/bash/tar.html) | Store, list or extract files in an archive |
|  | [tee](https://ss64.com/bash/tee.html) | Redirect output to multiple files |
|  | [test](https://ss64.com/bash/test.html) | Evaluate a conditional expression |
|  | [time](https://ss64.com/bash/time.html) | Measure Program running time |
|  | [timeout](https://ss64.com/bash/timeout.html) | Run a command with a time limit |
|  | [times](https://ss64.com/bash/times.html) | User and system times |
|  | [tmux](https://ss64.com/bash/tmux.html) | Terminal multiplexer |
|  | [touch](https://ss64.com/bash/touch.html) | Change file timestamps |
|  | [top](https://ss64.com/bash/top.html) | List processes running on the system |
|  | [tput](https://ss64.com/bash/tput.html) | Set terminal-dependent capabilities, color, position |
|  | [traceroute](https://ss64.com/bash/traceroute.html) | Trace Route to Host |
|  | [trap](https://ss64.com/bash/trap.html) | Execute a command when the shell receives a signal • |
|  | [tr](https://ss64.com/bash/tr.html) | Translate, squeeze, and/or delete characters |
|  | [true](https://ss64.com/bash/true.html) | Do nothing, successfully |
|  | [tsort](https://ss64.com/bash/tsort.html) | Topological sort |
|  | [tty](https://ss64.com/bash/tty.html) | Print filename of terminal on stdin |
|  | [type](https://ss64.com/bash/type.html) | Describe a command • |
| U |  |  |
|  | [ulimit](https://ss64.com/bash/ulimit.html) | Limit user resources • |
|  | [umask](https://ss64.com/bash/umask.html) | Users file creation mask |
|  | umount | Unmount a device |
|  | [unalias](https://ss64.com/bash/alias.html) | Remove an alias • |
|  | [uname](https://ss64.com/bash/uname.html) | Print system information |
|  | [unexpand](https://ss64.com/bash/unexpand.html) | Convert spaces to tabs |
|  | [uniq](https://ss64.com/bash/uniq.html) | Uniquify files |
|  | [units](https://ss64.com/bash/units.html) | Convert units from one scale to another |
|  | [unrar](https://ss64.com/bash/unrar.html) | Extract files from a rar archive |
|  | [unset](https://ss64.com/bash/unset.html) | Remove variable or function names |
|  | [unshar](https://ss64.com/bash/unshar.html) | Unpack shell archive scripts |
|  | [until](https://ss64.com/bash/until.html) | Execute commands (until error) |
|  | uptime | Show uptime |
|  | [useradd](https://ss64.com/bash/useradd.html) | Create new user account |
|  | [userdel](https://ss64.com/bash/userdel.html) | Delete a user account |
|  | [usermod](https://ss64.com/bash/usermod.html) | Modify user account |
|  | [users](https://ss64.com/bash/users.html) | List users currently logged in |
|  | [uuencode](https://ss64.com/bash/uuencode.html) | Encode a binary file |
|  | [uudecode](https://ss64.com/bash/uuencode.html) | Decode a file created by uuencode |
| V |  |  |
|  | v | Verbosely list directory contents ('ls -l -b') |
|  | vdir | Verbosely list directory contents ('ls -l -b') |
|  | [vi](https://ss64.com/vi.html) | Text Editor |
|  | [vmstat](https://ss64.com/bash/vmstat.html) | Report virtual memory statistics |
| W |  |  |
|  | [w](https://ss64.com/bash/w.html) | Show who is logged on and what they are doing |
|  | [wait](https://ss64.com/bash/wait.html) | Wait for a process to complete • |
|  | [watch](https://ss64.com/bash/watch.html) | Execute/display a program periodically |
|  | [wc](https://ss64.com/bash/wc.html) | Print byte, word, and line counts |
|  | [whereis](https://ss64.com/bash/whereis.html) | Search the user's $path, man pages and source files for a program |
|  | [which](https://ss64.com/bash/which.html) | Search the user's $path for a program file |
|  | [while](https://ss64.com/bash/while.html) | Execute commands |
|  | [who](https://ss64.com/bash/who.html) | Print all usernames currently logged in |
|  | [whoami](https://ss64.com/bash/whoami.html) | Print the current user id and name ('id -un') |
|  | wget | Retrieve web pages or files via HTTP, HTTPS or FTP |
|  | [write](https://ss64.com/bash/write.html) | Send a message to another user |
| X |  |  |
|  | [xargs](https://ss64.com/bash/xargs.html) | Execute utility, passing constructed argument list(s) |
|  | [xdg-open](https://ss64.com/bash/xdg-open.html) | Open a file or URL in the user's preferred application. |
|  | [xz](https://ss64.com/bash/xz.html) | Compress or decompress .xz and .lzma files |
|  | [yes](https://ss64.com/bash/yes.html) | Print a string until interrupted |
|  | [zip](https://ss64.com/bash/zip.html) | Package and compress (archive) files. |
|  | [.](https://ss64.com/bash/source.html) | [Run](https://ss64.com/bash/source.html) a command script in the current shell |
|  | [!!](https://ss64.com/bash/bang.html) | Run the [last](https://ss64.com/bash/bang.html) command again |
|  | [###](https://ss64.com/bash/rem.html) | Comment / [Rem](https://ss64.com/bash/rem.html)ark |

mands marked • are bash built-ins  
The other commands and Core Utils are also available under alternate shells (C shell, Korn shell etc).