Linux Command Cheat Sheet

Basic commands

|	Pipe (redirect) output
sudo [command]	run < command> in superuser mode
nohup [command]	run < command> immune to hangup signal
man [command]	display help pages of < command>
[command] &	run < command> and send task to background
>> [fileA]	append to fileA, preserving existing contents
> [fileA]	output to fileA, overwriting contents
echo -n	display a line of text
xargs	build command line from previous output
1>2&	Redirect stdout to stderr
fg %N	go to task N
jobs	list task
ctrl-z	suspend current task

File permission

chmod -c -R	chmod file read, write and executable permission
touch -a -t	modify (or create) file timestamp
chown -c -R	change file ownership
chgrp -c -R	change file group permission
touch -a -t	modify (or create) file timestamp

Network

netstat -r -v	print network information, routing and connections
telnet	user interface to the TELNET protocol
tcpdump	dump network traffic
ssh -i	openSSH client
ping -c	print routing packet trace to host network

File management

find	search for a file
ls -a -C -h	list content of directory
rm -r -f	remove files and directory
locate -i	find file, using updatedb(8) database
cp -a -R -i	copy files or directory
du -s	disk usage
file -b -i	identify the file type
mv -f -i	move files or directory
grep, egrep, fgrep -i -v	print lines matching pattern

File compression

tar xvfz	create or extract .tar or .tgz files
gzip, gunzip, zcat	create, extract or view .gz files
uuencode, uudecode	create or extract .Z files
zip, unzip -v	create or extract .ZIP files
rpm	create or extract .rpm files
bzip2, bunzip2	create or extract .bz2 files
rar	create or extract .rar files

File Editor

ex	basic editor
vi	visual editor
nano	pico clone
view	view file only
emacs	extensible, customizable editor
sublime	yet another text editor
sed	stream editor
pico	simple editor

Directory Utilities

mkdir	create a directory
rmdir	remove a directory

File Utilities

tr -d	translate or delete character
uniq -c -u	report or omit repeated lines
split -l	split file into pieces
wc -w	print newline, word, and byte counts for each file
head -n	output the first part of files
cut -s	remove section from file
diff -q	file compare, line by line
join -i	join lines of two files on a common field
more, less	view file content, one page at a time
sort -n	sort lines in text file
comm -3	compare two sorted files, line by line
cat -s	concatenate files to the standard output
tail -f	output last part of the file

Scripting

awk, gawk	pattern scanning
tsh	tiny shell
" "	anything within double quotes is unchanged except \ and $
' '	anything within single quote is unchanged
python	"object-oriented programming language"
bash	GNU bourne-again SHell
ksh	korn shell
php	general-purpose scripting language
csh, tcsh	C shell
perl	Practical Extraction and Report Language
source [file]	load any functions file into the current shell, requires the file to be executable

Memory & Processes

free -m	display free and used system memory
killall	stop all process by name
sensors	CPU temperature
top	display current processes, real time monitoring
kill -1 -9	send signal to process
service [start|stop|restart]	manage or run sysV init script
ps aux	display current processes, snapshot
dmesg -k	display system messages

Disk Utilities

df -h, -i	File system usage
mkfs -t -V	create file system
resize2fs	update a filesystem, after lvextend*
fsck -A -N	file system check & repair
pvcreate	create physical volume
mount -a -t	mount a filesystem
fdisk -l	edit disk partition
lvcreate	create a logical volume
umount -f -v	umount a filesystem

Misc Commands

pwd -P	print current working directory
bc	high precision calculator
expr	evaluate expression
cal	print calender
export	assign or remove environment variable
` [command]	backquote, execute command
date -d	print formatted date
$[variable]	if set, access the variable

Sponsored by loggly

Read the Blog Post »
bit.ly/Linux-Commands

Compiled by Alvin Khoo