Appendix A: UNIX[x]/Emacs[xi] Survival Guide

This handout summarizes many of the commands helpful for getting around on the Unix operating system and the Emacs editor.

Directory Commands

`cd directory`	Change directory. If *directory* is not specified, goes to home directory.
`pwd`	Show current directory (*p*rint *w*orking *d*irectory)
`ls`	Show the contents of a directory. **ls -a** will also show files whose name begins with a dot. **ls -l** shows lots of miscellaneous info about each file
`rm file`	Delete a file
`mv old new`	Rename a file from old to new (also works for moving things between directories). If there was already a file named new, its previous contents are lost.
`cp old new`	Creates a file named new containing the same thing as old. If there was already a file named new, its previous contents are lost.
`mkdir name`	Create a directory
`rmdir name`	Delete a directory. The directory must be empty.

Shorthand Notations & Wildcards

`.`	Current directory
`..`	Parent directory
`~`	Your home directory
`~<user>`	Home directory of *user*
`*`	Any number of characters (not '.') Ex: *.c is all files ending in '.c'
`?`	Any single character (not '.')

Miscellaneous Commands

`cat file`	Print the contents of *file* to standard output
`more file`	Same as `cat`, but only a page at a time (useful for displaying)
`less file`	Same as `more`, but with navigability (`less` is `more`)
`w`	Find out who is on the system and what they are doing
`ps`	List all your currently active processes
`jobs`	Show jobs that have been suspended

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process&	Runs a process in the background
%	Continue last job suspended (suspend a process with ^Z)
% *number*	Continue a particular job
kill *process-id*	Kill a process
kill -9 *process*	Kill a process with extreme prejudice
grep *exp files*	Search for an expression in a set of files
wc *file*	Count words, lines, and characters in a file
script	Start saving everything that happens in a file. type **exit** when done
lpr *file*	Print *file* to the default printer
lpr -Pinky *file*	Print *file* to the printer named *inky*
diff *file1 file2*	Show the differences between two files
telnet *hostname*	Log on to another machine
webster *word*	Looks up the given word in the dictionary. Works from most AIR machines, but is not standard UNIX (It actually talks to a NeXT...)

Getting Help

man *subject*	Read the manual entry on a particular subject
man -k *keyword*	Show all the manual listings for a particular keyword

History

history	Show the most recent commands executed
!!	Re-execute the last command
!*number*	Re-execute a particular command by number
!*string*	Re-execute the last command beginning with string
^*wrong*^*right*^	Re-execute the last command, substituting right for wrong
Ctrl-P	Scroll backwards through previous commands

Pipes

a > *b*	Redirect a's standard output to overwrite file b
a >> *b*	Redirect a's standard output to append to the file b
a >& *b*	Redirect a's error output to overwrite file b
a < *b*	Redirect a's standard input to read from the file b
a | *b*	Redirect a's standard output to b's standard input