

SS64

Search

Syntax

Links

An A-Z Index of the **Bash** command line for Linux.

adduser Add a user to the system
addgroup Add a group to the system
alias Create an alias ·
apropos Search Help manual pages (man -k)
apt-get Search for and install software packages (Debian/Ubuntu)
aptitude Search for and install software packages (Debian/Ubuntu)
aspell Spell Checker
awk Find and Replace text, database sort/validate/index

b

basename Strip directory and suffix from filenames
bash GNU Bourne-Again SHell
bc Arbitrary precision calculator language
bg Send to background
break Exit from a loop ·
builtin Run a shell builtin
bzip2 Compress or decompress named file(s)

c

cal Display a calendar
case Conditionally perform a command
cat Display the contents of a file
cd Change Directory
cfdisk Partition table manipulator for Linux
chgrp Change group ownership
chmod Change access permissions
chown Change file owner and group
chroot Run a command with a different root directory
chkconfig System services (runlevel)
cksum Print CRC checksum and byte counts
clear Clear terminal screen
cmp Compare two files
comm Compare two sorted files line by line
command Run a command - ignoring shell functions ·
continue Resume the next iteration of a loop ·
cp Copy one or more files to another location
cron Daemon to execute scheduled commands
crontab Schedule a command to run at a later time
csplit Split a file into context-determined pieces
cut Divide a file into several parts

d

date Display or change the date & time
dc Desk Calculator
dd Convert and copy a file, write disk headers, boot records
ddrescue Data recovery tool
declare Declare variables and give them attributes ·
df Display free disk space
diff Display the differences between two files
diff3 Show differences among three files
dig DNS lookup
dir Briefly list directory contents
dircolors Colour setup for 'ls'
dirname Convert a full pathname to just a path
dirs Display list of remembered directories
dmesg Print kernel & driver messages
du Estimate file space usage

e

echo Display message on screen ·
egrep Search file(s) for lines that match an extended expression
eject Eject removable media
enable Enable and disable builtin shell commands ·
env Environment variables
ethtool Ethernet card settings
eval Evaluate several commands/arguments
exec Execute a command

exit Exit the shell

expect Automate arbitrary applications accessed over a terminal

expand Convert tabs to spaces

export Set an environment variable

expr Evaluate expressions

f

false Do nothing, unsuccessfully

fdformat Low-level format a floppy disk

fdisk Partition table manipulator for Linux

fg Send job to foreground

fgrep Search file(s) for lines that match a fixed string

file Determine file type

find Search for files that meet a desired criteria

fmt Reformat paragraph text

fold Wrap text to fit a specified width.

for Expand *words*, and execute *commands*

format Format disks or tapes

free Display memory usage

fsck File system consistency check and repair

ftp File Transfer Protocol

function Define Function Macros

fuser Identify/kill the process that is accessing a file

g

gawk Find and Replace text within file(s)

getopts Parse positional parameters

grep Search file(s) for lines that match a given pattern

groups Print group names a user is in

gzip Compress or decompress named file(s)

h

hash Remember the full pathname of a name argument

head Output the first part of file(s)

help Display help for a built-in command

history Command History

hostname Print or set system name

i

id Print user and group id's

if Conditionally perform a command

ifconfig Configure a network interface

ifdown Stop a network interface

ifup Start a network interface up

import Capture an X server screen and save the image to file

install Copy files and set attributes

j

jobs List active jobs

join Join lines on a common field

k

kill Stop a process from running

killall Kill processes by name

l

less Display output one screen at a time

let Perform arithmetic on shell variables

ln Make links between files

local Create variables

locate Find files

logname Print current login name

logout Exit a login shell

look Display lines beginning with a given string

lpc Line printer control program

lpr Off line print

lprint Print a file

lprintd Abort a print job

lprintq List the print queue

lprm Remove jobs from the print queue

ls List information about file(s)

lsof List open files

m

make Recompile a group of programs

man Help manual

mkdir Create new folder(s)

mkfifo Make FIFOs (named pipes)
mkisofs Create an hybrid ISO9660/JOLIET/HFS filesystem
mknod Make block or character special files
more Display output one screen at a time
mount Mount a file system
mttools Manipulate MS-DOS files
mtr Network diagnostics (traceroute/ping)
mv Move or rename files or directories
mmv Mass Move and rename (files)

n

netstat Networking information
nice Set the priority of a command or job
nl Number lines and write files
nohup Run a command immune to hangups
notify-send Send desktop notifications
nslookup Query Internet name servers interactively

o

open Open a file in its default application
op Operator access

p

passwd Modify a user password
paste Merge lines of files
pathchk Check file name portability
ping Test a network connection
kill Stop processes from running
popd Restore the previous value of the current directory
pr Prepare files for printing
printcap Printer capability database
printenv Print environment variables
printf Format and print data
ps Process status
pushd Save and then change the current directory
pwd Print Working Directory

q

quota Display disk usage and limits
quotacheck Scan a file system for disk usage
quotactl Set disk quotas

r

ram ram disk device
rcp Copy files between two machines
read Read a line from standard input
readarray Read from stdin into an array variable
readonly Mark variables/functions as readonly
reboot Reboot the system
rename Rename files
renice Alter priority of running processes
remsync Synchronize remote files via email
return Exit a shell function
rev Reverse lines of a file
rm Remove files
rmdir Remove folder(s)
rsync Remote file copy (Synchronize file trees)

s

screen Multiplex terminal, run remote shells via ssh
scp Secure copy (remote file copy)
sdiff Merge two files interactively
sed Stream Editor
select Accept keyboard input
seq Print numeric sequences
set Manipulate shell variables and functions
sftp Secure File Transfer Program
shift Shift positional parameters
shopt Shell Options
shutdown Shutdown or restart linux
sleep Delay for a specified time
slocate Find files
sort Sort text files
source Run commands from a file `.`
split Split a file into fixed-size pieces

[ssh](#) Secure Shell client (remote login program)
[strace](#) Trace system calls and signals
[su](#) Substitute user identity
[sudo](#) Execute a command as another user
[sum](#) Print a checksum for a file
[suspend](#) Suspend execution of this shell •
[symlink](#) Make a new name for a file
[sync](#) Synchronize data on disk with memory
t
[tail](#) Output the last part of files
[tar](#) Tape ARchiver
[tee](#) Redirect output to multiple files
[test](#) Evaluate a conditional expression
[time](#) Measure Program running time
[times](#) User and system times
[touch](#) Change file timestamps
[top](#) List processes running on the system
[traceroute](#) Trace Route to Host
[trap](#) Run a command when a signal is set(bourne)
[tr](#) Translate, squeeze, and/or delete characters
[true](#) Do nothing, successfully
[tsort](#) Topological sort
[tty](#) Print filename of terminal on stdin
[type](#) Describe a command •
u
[ulimit](#) Limit user resources •
[umask](#) Users file creation mask
[umount](#) Unmount a device
[unalias](#) Remove an alias •
[uname](#) Print system information
[unexpand](#) Convert spaces to tabs
[uniq](#) Uniquify files
[units](#) Convert units from one scale to another
[unset](#) Remove variable or function names
[unshar](#) Unpack shell archive scripts
[until](#) Execute commands (until error)
[useradd](#) Create new user account
[usermod](#) Modify user account
[users](#) List users currently logged in
[uuencode](#) Encode a binary file
[uudecode](#) Decode a file created by uuencode
v
[v](#) Verbosely list directory contents ('ls -l -b')
[vdir](#) Verbosely list directory contents ('ls -l -b')
[vi](#) Text Editor
[vmstat](#) Report virtual memory statistics
w
[watch](#) Execute/display a program periodically
[wc](#) Print byte, word, and line counts
[whereis](#) Search the user's \$path, man pages and source files for a program
[which](#) Search the user's \$path for a program file
[while](#) Execute commands
[who](#) Print all usernames currently logged in
[whoami](#) Print the current user id and name ('id -un')
[Wget](#) Retrieve web pages or files via HTTP, HTTPS or FTP
[write](#) Send a message to another user
x
[xargs](#) Execute utility, passing constructed argument list(s)
[xdg-open](#) Open a file or URL in the user's preferred application.
[yes](#) Print a string until interrupted
[.](#) Run a command script in the current shell
[###](#) Comment / Remark

Commands marked • are bash *built-ins*, these are available under all shells.

More bash commands: [Linux Command Directory](#) from O'Reilly

[SS64 bash discussion forum](#)

[Links to other Sites, books etc](#)

