

Linux Command Checklist

I. Directory Navigation & Structure

Command	Description
<code>cd <pathname></code>	Change Directory to the specified path.
<code>/</code>	Represents the root directory .
<code>~</code>	Represents the home directory for the current user.
<code>.</code>	Represents the current directory .
<code>..</code>	Represents the parent directory .

II. File & Directory Manipulation

A. Listing Contents

Command	Description
<code>ls <directory></code>	Lists the contents of a directory.
<code>ls</code>	Lists the current working directory .
<code>ls -l</code>	Lists contents in long format .
<code>ls -a</code>	Lists all files , including hidden files (starting with a dot).
<code>ls -la</code> or <code>ls -l -a</code>	Combines options: long format and all files.

B. Creation & Deletion

Command	Description
<code>touch <file></code>	Creates an empty file.
<code>mkdir <dir></code>	Creates a directory.
<code>rm <file1> <file2></code>	Deletes files.
<code>rmdir <dir></code>	Deletes an empty directory.

Command	Description
<code>rm -r <dir></code>	Deletes a directory along with its contents .

C. Copying & Moving/Renaming

Command	Description
<code>cp <file1> <file2></code>	Copies content of <code>file1</code> into <code>file2</code> .
<code>cp <file1> <dir></code>	Copies a file into a directory.
<code>cp -r <dir1> <dir2></code>	If <code>dir2</code> doesn't exist, copy <code>dir1</code> as <code>dir2</code> . Otherwise, copy <code>dir1</code> inside <code>dir2</code> .
<code>mv <file1> <file2></code>	Renames <code>file1</code> as <code>file2</code> .
<code>mv <file> <dir></code>	Moves a file into a directory.
<code>mv <dir1> <dir2></code>	If <code>dir2</code> doesn't exist, rename <code>dir1</code> as <code>dir2</code> . Otherwise, move <code>dir1</code> inside <code>dir2</code> .

III. Viewing & Editing File Content

Command	Description
<code>nano <file></code>	Edits a file (simple editor).
<code>gedit <file></code>	Edits a file (GUI editor).
<code>cat <file></code>	Shows the entire file content to standard output.
<code>less <file></code>	Shows file content page-by-page.

IV. I/O Redirection

Symbol	Description
<code>></code>	Redirects Standard Output to a file. E.g., <code>ls -l > ls_rst.txt</code> .
<code><</code>	Redirects Standard Input from a file. E.g., <code>my_program < input.txt</code> .

V. Other Commands & Features

Command/Feature	Description
*	Wildcard. Represents any character string (including an empty string).
diff <file1> <file2>	Compares two files for differences. Add <code>-w</code> to ignore white spaces (space, tab).
sudo apt-get install <program>	Installs a program. sudo executes the command as a superuser (requires a password).
sudo apt-get autoremove <program>	Removes a program.
man <command>	Shows the command's manual page for help.

VI. Extension: Useful Commands

Command/Feature	Description
pwd	P rints the w orking d irectory (shows your current location).
<command> --help or <command> -h	Displays a brief summary and list of common options for a specific command.
clear	Clears the terminal screen, moving all previous output out of sight.
history	Displays a list of previously executed commands.
whoami	Displays your current effective username.
echo <text>	Prints the specified text to the standard output (the terminal).