

Kali Linux Commands (A-Z)

A

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 : Concatenate and print (display) the content of files
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
chksconfig : 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
grep : 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
groupadd : Add a user security group
groupdel : Delete a group
groupmod : Modify a group
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

iconv : Convert the character set of a file
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 : Create a symbolic link to a file
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
lpprint : Print a file
lpriodt : Abort a print job
lpriodq : 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
mknode : Make block or character special files
more : Display output one screen at a time
mount : Mount a file system
mtools : Manipulate MS-DOS files
ntr : 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
pkill : 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

T

tail : Output the last part of file
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)
uptime : Show uptime
useradd : Create new user account
userdel : Delete a user account
usermod : Modify user account
users : List users currently logged in
uuencode : Encode a binary file
udecode : 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

wait : Wait for a process to complete
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.