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| / | Root directories | Similar to C: drive in Windows |
| root | Root account’s home directories | Similar to Administrator in Windows |
| bin | User binaries | Contains essential user binaries |
| sbin | System binaries | Contains essential system administration binaries |
| etc | Configuration files | Contains configuration files required by all programs |
| home | Home directories | Contains all saved files, personal settings, etc. |
| lib | System libraries | Contains libraries needed by the essential binaries in the /bin and /sbin folder |
| mnt | Mount directories | Where sysadmins can mount filesystems |
| proc | Process information | Similar to /dev directory, contains special files that represent system and process information |
| tmp | Temporary files | Contains temporary files created by system and users |
| usr | User programs | Contains the majority of user utilities and applications |
| var | Variable files | Contains files that are expected to grow |

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| Account related commands | Description |
| $ | Indicates logged in as normal user |
| # | Indicates logged in as root user |
| su or su [login name] | Switch user |
| whoami | Confirms or prints the name of the user |
| passwd | Change the user account passwords |
| id | Shows the user ID |

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| File system related commands | Description |
| cd | Change directory |
| pwd | Prints current folder path |
| locate *filename* | Locates the entire files and folder for the *filename* |
| ls -l or -a | List all files in folder (l – long listing format; a – includes hidden files) |
| mount cdrom and eject | Mounts or ejects the cdrom |
| mkdir | Create folders or directories |
| rm | Remove a directory or file |
| cp *source dest* | Copies file from source to destination |
| gedit *filename* | Open a text editor to edit the file |
| cat *filename* | Display the content of the file on the terminal |
| less *filename* | Displays file contents one page at a time |
| | (piping) | Output of the first command serves as an input of the second command |