Linux command-line Cheat Sheet

Environment

Verify and set the environment variables in BASH.

verily and set the environi		Herit variables in DASH.
export	VAR=content	Store the variable with content
env		Display environment vars
echo	\$PATH	Display path where commands are located.
	\$HOME	Location of the home dir
	\$SHELL	Shell in use
	\$LD_LIBRARY _PATH	Directory with dynamic shared libraries.
\$DISPLAY		To which display applications should be sent
alias	newalias=cmd	Set a new alias
locale		Show language settings
~/.bashrc ~/.bash_profile		Where alias and environment vars can be stored to persist

Configuring the system

Command line applications provided by distributions to configure the system.

drakconf	Mandriva, Caixa Mágica	
(?)	Debian, Ubuntu	
(?)	Fedora	
yast2 (?)	OpenSuSE	

Files and directories

Commands for managing files and directories

Is	-al	List files
ср	file1 dir2/	Copy file to directory dir2/
mv	file1 dir2/	Move file / rename file
cat	file1	Show content of a text file1
rm	file1	Delete file1
mkdir	dir	Create directory
cd	dir	Change into directory

System status & Users

Get information about system and manage users.

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ps	-aux	List processes.
pstree		List processes as a tree.
top		Sort processes by CPU (or RAM).
free		Check free memory and swap.
df	-h	Show disk space in active partitions.
vmstat	-d	Display virtual memory, CPU and IO statistics
uname	-a	Show info about Kernel & hw.
useradd	-m user	Add an user, copy skel.
userdel	user	Delete an user.

Compress and archive

Useful tools for compressing and archive files.

The state of the s		
cvf filename.tar files	Archive	
xvf filename.tar	Unarchive	
cvfz filename.tgz files	Arch+Compress	
xvfz filename.tgz	Uncompress	
files	Compress	
finaname.bz2	Decompress	
files filename.zip	Compress	
filename.zip	Decompress	
	xvf filename.tar cvfz filename.tgz files xvfz filename.tgz files finaname.bz2 files filename.zip	

Redirection

Redirect input (stdin), errors (stderr) and output (stdout) between files and applications.

echo msg > file1	Redirect stdout to file1
echo msg 2> file1	Redirect stderr to file1
myprog &> file1	Redirect both stdout and stderr to file
myprog < file1	Redirect file1 content into stdin of myprog
echo msg myprog	Redirect stdout to myprog

Locating files

Commands for managing files and directories.

whereis	command	Where in \$PATH is command
locate -i file		Locate file in disk (-i = not case sensitive). Requires updatedb before.
updated	0	Updates the database of existent files and directories.
find	/ -name file	Finds recursively starting in location "/" the file with the given name.
find	exec ls {} \;	Executes command "Is" over each entry of find result

Parsing

Commands for parsing files and messages.

	pattern file	Prints line where pattern occur in file.
grep	-E ext_regexp file	Use extend regexp.
	-P Perl_regexp file	Use Perl regexp.
awk	'{print \$2}' file	Print field 2 of each line of file (space separated).
sed	s/str1/str2 file1	Sends to stdout the content of file1 replacing str1 by str2.

Network

Miscellaneous commands for networking.

		List all active interfaces
ifconfig	eth0	Display information about eth0 interface.
	eth0 up	Brings up eth0.
	eth0 1.1.1.1	Give a static IP to eth0.
route	-n	List all routes.
ping	hostname	Send a packet to hostname machine.
netstat	-a	List all open ports and conections in and out of the machine.
Isof	-i:80	List process that is listening in port 80.
ssh	server	Establish a secure shell to server
scp	file user@1.1.1.1:/	Copy file to remote location "/" in server 1.1.1.1 as "user".

Session

Useful shortcuts and commands for advanced session management

management.			
	d	Exit from the command line.	
Control	S	Freezes stdout.	
+	q	Unfreezes stdout.	
	r	Look backward in command history	
Page	Up	Complete the prompt with the last matching command in history	
	Down	The next matching command.	
		Launch screen.	
screen	(Ctrl-A d)	Dettach session.	
	-r	Reattach a previous session.	

Help

If none of the above works for you, try this.

man	command	Get information about command.
	1 command	Get section 1 of command man page.
	-k string	List all commands with "string" in the description .
info	command	Display documentation in info format for command.

Get updates of this Linux command-line Cheat Sheet in:

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