

File and Folder Management Commands



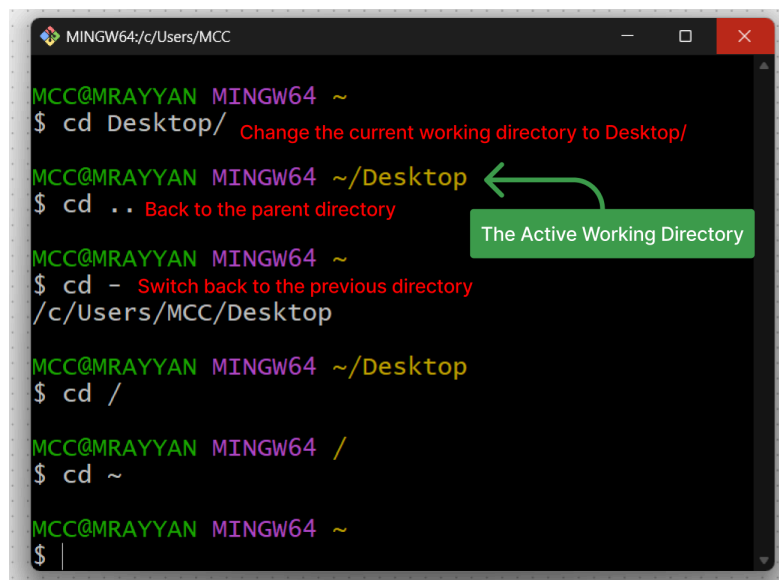
cd - Change Directory

The `cd` command is used to change the current working directory.

Syntax: `cd [directory_path]`

Options:

- `cd` (without arguments): Changes to the user's home directory.
- `cd ..`: Moves to the parent directory.
- `cd -`: Switches back to the previous directory.
- `cd ~`: Changes to the user's home directory. Equivalent to `cd /c/Users/username` in Windows.
- `cd /`: Changes to the root directory.



```
MINGW64/c/Users/MCC
MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~
$ cd Desktop/ Change the current working directory to Desktop/
MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop ← The Active Working Directory
$ cd .. Back to the parent directory
MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~
$ cd - Switch back to the previous directory
/c/Users/MCC/Desktop
MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop
$ cd /
MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 /
$ cd ~
MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~
$
```

ls - List Directory Contents

The `ls` command lists the contents of a directory.

Syntax: `ls [options] [directory_path]`

Options:

- `-l`: Displays detailed information (long listing format).
- `-a`: Shows hidden files (those starting with a dot `.`).
- `-h`: Human-readable file sizes (e.g., KB, MB).
- `-R`: Recursively lists subdirectories.

```
MINGW64:/c/Users/MCC/Desktop/CommandLines
MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls
dir/  file.txt

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls -a
./  ../  .hiddenFile  dir/  file.txt

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls -al
total 4
drwxr-xr-x 1 MCC 197608 0 Feb 11 12:30 ./
drwxr-xr-x 1 MCC 197608 0 Feb 11 12:29 ../
-rw-r--r-- 1 MCC 197608 0 Feb 11 12:30 .hiddenFile
drwxr-xr-x 1 MCC 197608 0 Feb 11 12:31 dir/
-rw-r--r-- 1 MCC 197608 0 Feb 11 12:29 file.txt
```

pwd - Print Working Directory

The `pwd` command displays the absolute path of the current working directory.

Syntax: `pwd`

```
MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ pwd
/c/Users/MCC/Desktop/CommandLines
```

mkdir - Create a Directory

The `mkdir` command creates a new directory.

Syntax: `mkdir [options] [directory_name]`

Options:

- `-p`: Creates parent directories as needed.

```
MINGW64:/c/Users/MCC/Desktop/CommandLines

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls
dir/  file.txt

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ mkdir newDir

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls
dir/  file.txt  newDir/
```

```
MINGW64:/c/Users/MCC/Desktop/CommandLines

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls
dir/  file.txt  newDir/

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ mkdir parentDir/childDir
mkdir: cannot create directory 'parentDir/childDir': No such file or directory

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ mkdir -p parentDir/childDir

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls
dir/  file.txt  newDir/  parentDir/

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls parentDir/
childDir/
```

touch - Create a File

The **touch** command creates an empty file or updates the timestamp of an existing file.

Syntax: `touch [file_name]`

A screenshot of a Windows command prompt window titled "MINGW64; c:/Users/MCC/Desktop/CommandLines". The prompt shows the user "MCC@MRAYYAN" in a "MINGW64" environment at the directory "~/Desktop/CommandLines". The user enters the command "ls", and the output shows "dir/", "file.txt", "newDir/", and "parentDir/". Then, the user enters "touch newFile.cs". Finally, the user enters "ls" again, and the output now includes "newFile.cs" in the directory listing, which is highlighted with a red rectangular box.

```
MINGW64; c:/Users/MCC/Desktop/CommandLines
MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls
dir/  file.txt  newDir/  parentDir/

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ touch newFile.cs

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls
dir/  file.txt  newDir/  newFile.cs  parentDir/

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ |
```

rm - Remove a File

The **rm** command deletes a file or multiple files.

Syntax: **rm** [options] [file_name]

Options:

- **-r**: Recursively remove directories and their contents.
- **-f**: Forcefully remove files without prompting for confirmation.

```
MINGW64~/Users/MCC/Desktop/CommandLines
MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls
dir/  file.txt  newDir/  newFile.cs  parentDir/

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ rm newDir/
rm: cannot remove 'newDir/': Is a directory

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ rm -r newDir/

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls
dir/  file.txt  newFile.cs  parentDir/

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ rm newFile.cs

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls
dir/  file.txt  parentDir/
```

rmdir - Remove a Directory

The **rmdir** command removes an empty directory. it's like **rm -r** but only for empty directories.

Syntax: **rmdir** [directory_name]

cp - Copy a File

The `cp` command copies files or directories.

Syntax: `cp [options] source destination`

Options:

- `-r`: Recursively copy directories.
- `-i`: Prompt before overwriting existing files.

```
MINGW64:/c/Users/MCC/Desktop/CommandLines
MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ touch file.txt

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls
file.txt

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ cp file.txt ./copyOfFile.txt

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls
copyOfFile.txt  file.txt
```

mv - Move or Rename a File/Directory

The `mv` command moves or renames files and directories.

Syntax: `mv [options] source destination`

If the destination is a new file name, the source file is renamed.

```
MINGW64:/c/Users/MCC/Desktop/CommandLines

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls
copyOfFile.txt  file.txt

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ mv copyOfFile.txt file2.txt

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls
file.txt  file2.txt
```

If the destination is an existing directory, the source file is moved to that directory.

```
MINGW64:/c/Users/MCC/Desktop/CommandLines

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls
anotherDir/  file.txt  file2.txt

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ mv file.txt ./anotherDir/

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls
anotherDir/  file2.txt

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ ls anotherDir/
file.txt
```

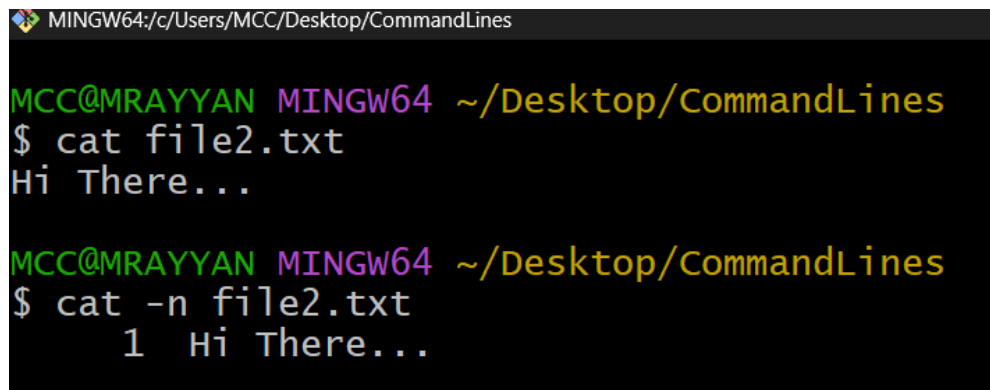
cat - Concatenate and Display File Content

The `cat` command displays the contents of a file, concatenates files, or creates new files.

Syntax: `cat [options] [file_name]`

Options:

- `-n`: Number all output lines.

A screenshot of a Windows Command Prompt window titled 'MINGW64: c:/Users/MCC/Desktop/CommandLines'. The prompt shows the user 'MCC@MRAYYAN' in a 'MINGW64' environment at the directory '~/Desktop/CommandLines'. The first command executed is '\$ cat file2.txt', which outputs 'Hi There...'. The second command is '\$ cat -n file2.txt', which outputs '1 Hi There...'.

```
MINGW64: c:/Users/MCC/Desktop/CommandLines
MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ cat file2.txt
Hi There...

MCC@MRAYYAN MINGW64 ~/Desktop/CommandLines
$ cat -n file2.txt
 1 Hi There...
```

clear - Clear the Terminal Screen

The `clear` command clears the terminal screen of all previous commands and output.

Syntax: `clear`
