Linux Command Cheat Sheet

File Commands

- ls Directory listing
- ls -l Long listing format
- ls -a List all files including hidden files
- cd /path/to/directory Change directory
- pwd Display the current working directory
- mkdir directory_name Create a new directory
- rmdir directory_name Remove an empty directory
- rm file_name Remove a file
- rm -r directory_name Remove a directory and its contents recursively
- touch file_name Create or update a file
- cat file_name Concatenate and display the file content
- more file_name View file content page by page
- less file_name Improved viewing of file content over more
- cp source_file target_file Copy files from source to target
- mv old_name new_name Rename or move a file/directory

SSH (Secure Shell)

- ssh user@host Connect to host as user
- ssh -p port user@host Connect using a specific port
- ssh-keygen -t rsa Generate RSA key pair
- ssh-copy-id user@host Copy your key to the remote server for password-less login

Searching

- grep pattern files Search for a pattern in files
- grep -r pattern dir Recursively search for a pattern in a directory
- find dir -name name* Find files starting with name in a directory
- locate file_name Find files by name (uses a database)

Process Management

- ps aux Display your currently active processes
- ps aux | grep process_name Find a process named process_name
- top Display all running processes

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- kill pid Kill a process with a given PID
- killall process_name Kill all processes named process_name
- bg List stopped or background jobs; resume a stopped job in the background
- fg Bring the most recent job to the foreground

File Permissions

- chmod +x file_name Make a file executable
- chmod 755 file_name Set read and execute permissions for owner and read for others
- chown user:group file_name Change file owner and group

Networking

- ifconfig Display all network interfaces and IP addresses
- ping host Send ICMP echo request to host
- traceroute host Display the route packets take to a network host
- netstat -tulnp Display listening ports and their applications

Archiving and Compression

- tar cf archive_name.tar files Create a tar archive containing files
- tar xf archive_name.tar Extract files from a tar archive
- gzip file_name Compress a file and rename it to file.gz
- gunzip file.gz Decompress file.gz back to the original

System Info and Management

- uname -a Show system and kernel info
- df -h Display free disk space in a human-readable form
- du -sh directory_name Show disk usage of a directory in human-readable form
- free -m Show free and used memory in MB

Misc Commands

- man command_name Show manual for a command
- echo "text" Display a message on the screen
- date Display the current date and time
- uptime Show how long the system has been running

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