

# LET'S TALK ABOUT **LINUX**



LINUX COMMANDS TO LEARN



**NOE TOVAR-MBA**

# INTRODUCTION

Hey there! So you're diving into the fascinating world of Linux administration, huh? Buckle up, my friend, because you're in for a thrilling ride!

**Welcome to the world of Linux**, where the penguins roam free, and sysadmins wield the power of the command line like wizards! In this eBook, we'll embark on an exciting adventure to unravel the essentials of Linux commands, equipping you to conquer the realm of server administration.

## A Glimpse into Linux's Roots

Let's take a stroll down memory lane. Picture a young Linus Torvalds back in 1991, crafting the blueprint for an open-source operating system. Little did he know that his creation would grow into a global phenomenon, powering servers, devices, and even space exploration!

*"Linux is a cancer that attaches itself in an intellectual property sense to everything it touches."\* - Steve Ballmer, former CEO of Microsoft.*


Imagine what Microsoft thought back then! But Linux persisted, thriving on the principles of collaboration and freedom.

## The Distros Galore

Linux isn't a one-size-fits-all deal; it's more like a buffet with a plethora of distros to suit every taste. Whether you're into the elegance of Ubuntu, the bleeding edge of Arch, or the minimalism of Debian, there's a distro tailored just for you.

*\*"The nice thing about Linux is that it always looks like you're at the controls of a spaceship."\* - Raymond Chen, Microsoft developer.*

[www.noe.tovartech.org](http://www.noe.tovartech.org)



Expert analogy there! Linux does give you that sense of navigating through the cosmos with all the control at your fingertips.

### **Mastermind Behind the Penguiny Magic**

Ah, Linus Torvalds, the maestro behind our beloved penguin-powered OS. His genius and a touch of rebellious spirit gave birth to Linux. In the words of the man himself:

*"I'm doing a (free) operating system (just a hobby, won't be big and professional like gnu)..." - Linus Torvalds in the initial announcement.*

Little did he know how big and professional it would become! Linus is the guiding star in the Linux galaxy, reminding us that even hobbies can change the world.

So, my Linux journeyer, get ready to embrace the power of the terminal, explore the diverse distros, and channel your inner sysadmin.

This eBook is your trusty guide on this exciting expedition.  
May your commands be precise, and your servers forever stable!  
Kindest Regards  
Noe Tovar

# SYSTEM INFORMATION

# Display Linux system information

```
uname -a
```

# Display kernel release information

```
uname -r
```

# Show operating system information such as  
distribution name and version

```
cat /etc/os-release
```

# Show how long the system has been running +  
load

```
uptime
```

# Show system host name

```
hostname
```

# Display all local IP addresses of the host.

```
hostname -I
```

# Show system reboot history

```
last reboot
```

# Show the current date and time

```
date
```

# Show this month's calendar

```
cal
```

# Display who is online

```
w
```

# Who you are logged in as

```
whoami
```

# HARDWARE INFORMATION

```
# Display messages in kernel ring buffer  
dmesg
```

```
# Display CPU information  
cat /proc/cpuinfo
```

```
# Display memory information  
cat /proc/meminfo
```

```
# Display free and used memory ( -h for human readable,  
-m for MB, -g for GB.)  
free -h
```

```
# Display PCI devices  
lspci -tv
```

```
# Display USB devices  
lsusb -tv
```

```
# Display DMI/SMBIOS (hardware info) from the BIOS  
dmidecode
```

```
# Show info about disk sda  
hdparm -i /dev/sda
```

```
# Perform a read speed test on disk sda  
hdparm -tT /dev/sda
```

```
# Test for unreadable blocks on disk sda  
badblocks -s /dev/sda
```

# PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND STATISTICS

```
A# Display and manage the top processes
top
# Interactive process viewer (top alternative)
htop
# Display processor related statistics
mpstat 1
# Display virtual memory statistics
vmstat 1
# Display I/O statistics
iostat 1
# Display the last 100 syslog messages (Use
/var/log/syslog for Debian based systems.)
tail -100 /var/log/messages
# Capture and display all packets on interface eth0
tcpdump -i eth0
# Monitor all traffic on port 80 ( HTTP )
tcpdump -i eth0 'port 80'
# List all open files on the system
lsof
# List files opened by user
lsof -u user
# Display free and used memory ( -h for human readable,
-m for MB, -g for GB.)
free -h
# Execute "df -h", showing periodic updates
watch df -h
```

# USER INFORMATION AND MANAGEMENT

# Display the user and group ids of your current user.

```
id
```

# Display the last users who have logged onto the system.

```
last
```

# Show who is logged into the system.

```
who
```

# Show who is logged in and what they are doing.

```
w
```

# Create a group named "test".

```
groupadd test
```

# Create an account named john, with a comment of "John Smith" and create the user's home directory.

```
useradd -c "John Smith" -m john
```

# Delete the john account.

```
userdel john
```

# Add the john account to the sales group

```
usermod -aG sales john
```

# FILE AND DIRECTORY COMMANDS

# List all files in a long listing (detailed) format

ls -al

# Display the present working directory

pwd

# Create a directory

mkdir directory

# Remove (delete) file

rm file

# Remove the directory and its contents recursively

rm -r directory

# Force removal of file without prompting for confirmation

rm -f file

# Forcefully remove directory recursively

rm -rf directory

# Copy file1 to file2

cp file1 file2

# Copy source\_directory recursively to destination. If destination exists, copy source\_directory into destination, otherwise create destination with the contents of source\_directory.

cp -r source\_directory destination

# Rename or move file1 to file2. If file2 is an existing directory, move file1 into directory file2

mv file1 file2



# FILE AND DIRECTORY COMMANDS 2

# Create symbolic link to linkname

```
ln -s /path/to/file linkname
```

# Create an empty file or update the access and modification times of file.

```
touch file
```

# View the contents of file

```
cat file
```

# Browse through a text file

```
less file
```

# Display the first 10 lines of file

# Display the last 10 lines of file

# Display the last 10 lines of file and "follow" the file as it grows.

```
tail -f file
```

# PROCESS MANAGEMENT

# Display your currently running processes

ps

# Display all the currently running processes on the system.

ps -ef

# Display process information for processname

ps -ef | grep processname

# Display and manage the top processes

top

# Interactive process viewer (top alternative)

htop

# Kill process with process ID of pid

kill pid

# Kill all processes named processname

killall processname

# Start program in the background

program &

# Display stopped or background jobs

bg

# Brings the most recent background job to foreground

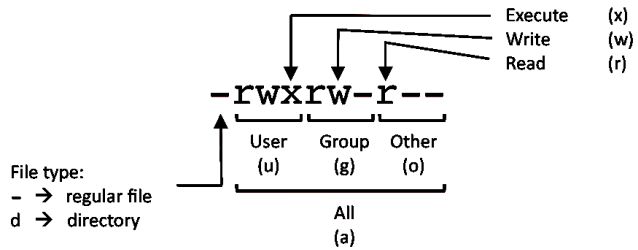
fg

# Brings job n to the foreground

fg n

# FILE PERMISSIONS

10



## PERMISSION      EXAMPLE

U	G	W	
rwx	rwx	rwx	<code>chmod 777 filename</code>
rwx	rwx	r-x	<code>chmod 775 filename</code>
rwx	r-x	r-x	<code>chmod 755 filename</code>
rw-	rw-	r--	<code>chmod 664 filename</code>
rw-	r--	r--	<code>chmod 644 filename</code>

Be sure when granting 777

### LEGEND

U = User

G = Group

W = World

r = Read

w = write

x = execute

- = no access



# NETWORKING

# Display all network interfaces and IP address

ip a

# Display eth0 address and details

ip addr show dev eth0

# Query or control network driver and hardware settings

ethtool eth0

# Send ICMP echo request to host

ping host

# Display whois information for domain

whois domain

# Display DNS information for domain

dig domain

# Reverse lookup of IP\_ADDRESS

dig -x IP\_ADDRESS

# Display DNS IP address for domain

host domain

# Display the network address of the host name.

hostname -i

# Display all local IP addresses of the host.

hostname -l

# Download http://domain.com/file

wget http://domain.com/file

# Display listening tcp and udp ports and corresponding programs

netstat -nutlp

# ARCHIVES

# Create tar named archive.tar containing directory.

```
tar cf archive.tar directory
```

# Extract the contents from archive.tar.

```
tar xf archive.tar
```

# Create a gzip compressed tar file name archive.tar.gz.

```
tar czf archive.tar.gz directory
```

# Extract a gzip compressed tar file.

```
tar xzf archive.tar.gz
```

# Create a tar file with bzip2 compression

```
tar cjf archive.tar.bz2 directory
```

# Extract a bzip2 compressed tar file.

```
tar xjf archive.tar.bz2
```



# INSTALLING PACKAGES

# Search for a package by keyword.

```
yum search keyword
```

# Install package.

```
yum install package
```

# Display description and summary information about package.

```
yum info package
```

# Install package from local file named package.rpm

```
rpm -i package.rpm
```

# Remove/uninstall package.

```
yum remove package
```

# Install software from source code.

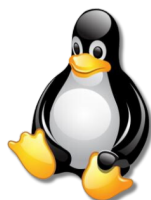
```
tar zxvf sourcecode.tar.gz
```

```
cd sourcecode
```

```
./configure
```

```
make
```

```
make install
```



# SEARCH

# Search for pattern in file

```
grep pattern file
```

# Search recursively for pattern in directory

```
grep -r pattern directory
```

# Find files and directories by name

```
locate name
```

# Find files in /home/john that start with "prefix".

```
find /home/john -name 'prefix*'
```

# Find files larger than 100MB in /home

```
find /home -size +100M
```



# SSH LOGINS

# Connect to host as your local username.

```
ssh host
```

# Connect to host as user

```
ssh user@host
```

# Connect to host using port

```
ssh -p port user@host
```





# FILE TRANSFERS

# Secure copy file.txt to the /tmp folder on server

```
scp file.txt server:/tmp
```

# Copy \*.html files from server to the local /tmp folder.

```
scp server:/var/www/*.html /tmp
```

# Copy all files and directories recursively from server to the current system's /tmp folder.

```
scp -r server:/var/www /tmp
```

# Synchronize /home to /backups/home

```
rsync -a /home /backups/
```

# Synchronize files/directories between the local and remote system with compression enabled

```
rsync -avz /home server:/backups/
```



# DISK USAGE

# Show free and used space on mounted filesystems

`df -h`

# Show free and used inodes on mounted filesystems

`df -i`

# Display disks partitions sizes and types

`fdisk -l`

# Display disk usage for all files and directories in human readable format

`du -ah`

# Display total disk usage off the current directory

`du -sh`



# DIRECTORY NAVIGATION

# To go up one level of the directory tree.  
(Change into the parent directory.)

```
cd ..
```

# Go to the \$HOME directory

```
cd
```

# Change to the /etc directory

```
cd /etc
```



# SECURITY

# Change the current user's password.

passwd

# Switch to the root account with root's environment.  
(Login shell.)

sudo -i

# Execute your current shell as root. (Non-login shell.)

sudo -s

# List sudo privileges for the current user.

sudo -l

# Edit the sudoers configuration file.

visudo

# Display the current SELinux mode.

getenforce

# Display SELinux details such as the current SELinux mode, the configured mode, and the loaded policy.

sestatus

# Change the current SELinux mode to Permissive.  
(Does not survive a reboot.)

setenforce 0

# Change the current SELinux mode to Enforcing. (Does not survive a reboot.)

setenforce 1

# Set the SELinux mode to enforcing on boot by using this setting in the /etc/selinux/config file.

SELINUX=enforcing

# Set the SELinux mode to permissive on boot by using this setting in the /etc/selinux/config file.

SELINUX=permissive

# Set the SELinux mode to disabled on boot by using this setting in the /etc/selinux/config file.

SELINUX=disabled

# LOGGING AND AUDITING

# Display messages in kernel ring buffer.  
`dmesg`

# Display logs stored in the systemd journal.  
`journalctl`

# Display logs for a specific unit (service).  
`journalctl -u servicename`



# LINUX DISTROS

BlackArch Linux

Clear Linux

Elementary OS

Knoppix

Mageia

Oracle Linux

RHEL

Slackware

Tizen

Zorin OS

AlmaLinux

Arch Linux

Asahi Linux

CentOS Stream

Debian

Gentoo

Lubuntu

Navy Linux

Peppermint OS

Scientific Linux

SUSE Linux

VzLinux

CentOS Linux

CloudLinux

Fedora

Linux Mint

Manjaro

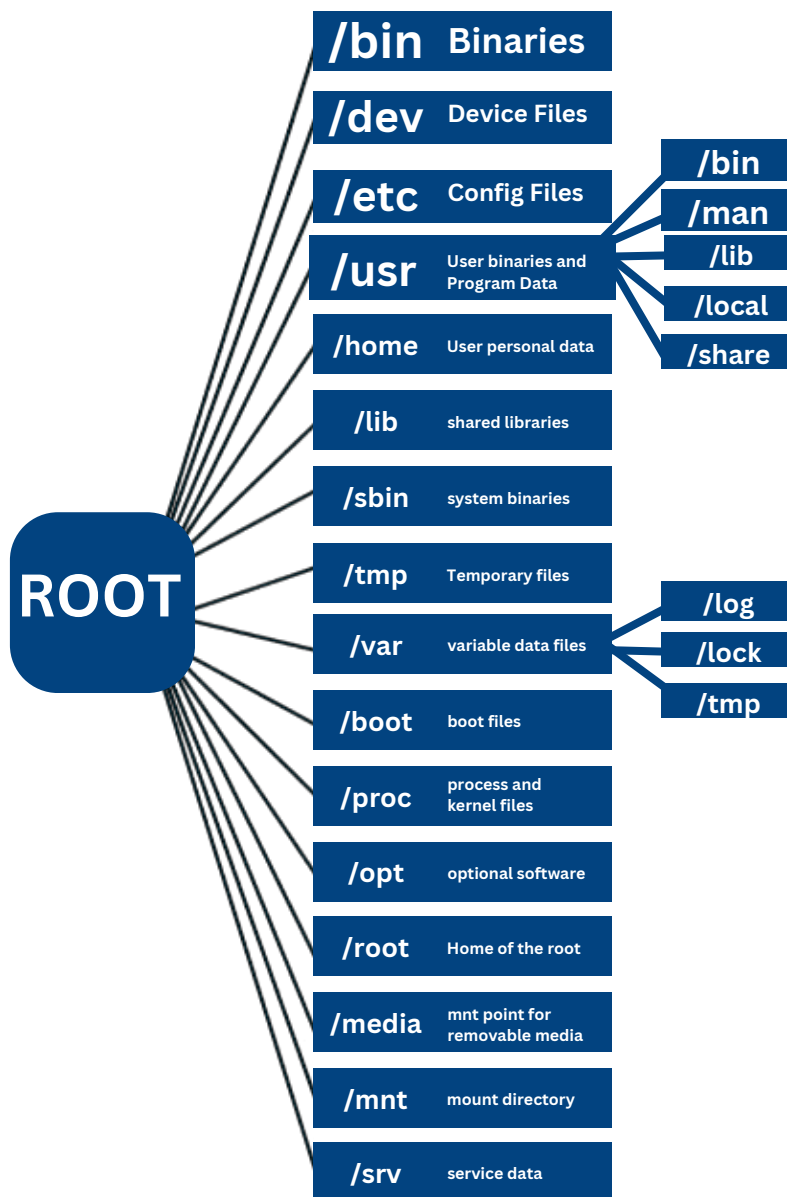
OpenSUSE

Rocky Linux

SUSE Liberty Linux

Ubuntu

# LINUX FILE STRUCTURE

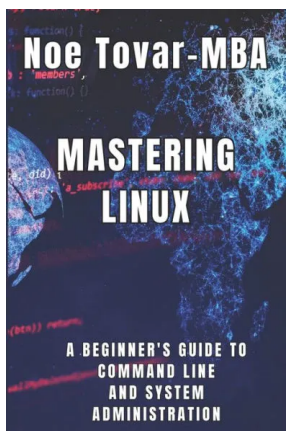


TRAINING VIDEOS ARE AVAILABLE  
CLICK ACTIVE LINK BELOW



YOU CAN CONTINUE TO LEARN WITH MY BOOK.

Mastering Linux: A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO COMMAND LINE  
AND SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION  
by Noe Tovar MBA



**AMAZON**  
BUY

**BARNES & NOBLE**  
BUY