

(SS64)

Links

Syntax

Search

An A-Z Index of the **Bash** command line for Linux.

alias Create an alias •

apropos Search Help manual pages (man -k)

apt-get Search for and install software packages (Debian/Ubuntu)

aptitude Search for and install software packages (Debian/Ubuntu)

aspell Spell Checker

awk Find and Replace text, database sort/validate/index

b

basename Strip directory and suffix from filenames

bash GNU Bourne-Again SHell

bc Arbitrary precision calculator language

bg Send to background

bind Set or display readline key and function bindings •

break Exit from a loop •

builtin Run a shell builtin

bzip2 Compress or decompress named file(s)

c

cal Display a calendar

case Conditionally perform a command

cat Concatenate and print (display) the content of files

cd Change Directory

cfdisk Partition table manipulator for Linux

chattr Change file attributes on a Linux file system

chgrp Change group ownership

chmod Change access permissions

chown Change file owner and group

chroot Run a command with a different root directory

chkconfig System services (runlevel)

cksum Print CRC checksum and byte counts

clear Clear terminal screen

cmp Compare two files

comm Compare two sorted files line by line

command Run a command - ignoring shell functions •

continue Resume the next iteration of a loop •

cp Copy one or more files to another location

cron Daemon to execute scheduled commands

crontab Schedule a command to run at a later time

csplit Split a file into context-determined pieces

curl Transfer data from or to a server

cut Divide a file into several parts

d

date Display or change the date & time

dc Desk Calculator

dd Convert and copy a file, write disk headers, boot records

ddrescue Data recovery tool

declare Declare variables and give them attributes •

df Display free disk space

diff Display the differences between two files

diff3 Show differences among three files

dig DNS lookup

dir Briefly list directory contents

dircolors Colour setup for 'ls'

dirname Convert a full pathname to just a path

dirs Display list of remembered directories

dmesg Print kernel & driver messages

du Estimate file space usage

e

echo Display message on screen •

egrep Search file(s) for lines that match an extended expression

eject Eject removable media

enable Enable and disable builtin shell commands •

env Environment variables

ethtool Ethernet card settings

eval Evaluate several commands/arguments

exec Execute a command

exit Exit the shell

expect Automate arbitrary applications accessed over a terminal

expand Convert tabs to spaces

export Set an environment variable
expr Evaluate expressions

f

false Do nothing, unsuccessfully
fdformat Low-level format a floppy disk
fdisk Partition table manipulator for Linux
fg Send job to foreground
fgrep Search file(s) for lines that match a fixed string
file Determine file type
find Search for files that meet a desired criteria
fmt Reformat paragraph text
fold Wrap text to fit a specified width.
for Expand *words*, and execute *commands*
format Format disks or tapes
free Display memory usage
fsck File system consistency check and repair
ftp File Transfer Protocol
function Define Function Macros
fuser Identify/kill the process that is accessing a file

g

gawk Find and Replace text within file(s)
getopts Parse positional parameters
grep Search file(s) for lines that match a given pattern
groupadd Add a user security group
groupdel Delete a group
groupmod Modify a group
groups Print group names a user is in
gzip Compress or decompress named file(s)

h

hash Remember the full pathname of a name argument
head Output the first part of file(s)
help Display help for a built-in command •
history Command History
hostname Print or set system name
htop Interactive process viewer

i

iconv Convert the character set of a file
id Print user and group id's
if Conditionally perform a command
ifconfig Configure a network interface
ifdown Stop a network interface
ifup Start a network interface up
import Capture an X server screen and save the image to file
install Copy files and set attributes
iostat Report CPU and i/o statistics
ip Routing, devices and tunnels

j

jobs List active jobs •
join Join lines on a common field

k

kill Kill a process by specifying its PID
killall Kill processes by name

l

less Display output one screen at a time
let Perform arithmetic on shell variables •
link Create a link to a file
ln Create a symbolic link to a file
local Create a function variable •
locate Find files
logname Print current login name
logout Exit a login shell •
look Display lines beginning with a given string
lpc Line printer control program
lpr Off line print
lprint Print a file
lprind Abort a print job
lprintq List the print queue
lprm Remove jobs from the print queue
lsattr List file attributes on a Linux second extended file system
lsblk List block devices
ls List information about file(s)
lsuf List open files

m

make Recompile a group of programs
man Help manual
mkdir Create new folder(s)
mkfifo Make FIFOs (named pipes)
mkfile Make a file
mkisofs Create an hybrid ISO9660/JOLIET/HFS filesystem
mknod Make block or character special files
mktemp Make a temporary file
more Display output one screen at a time
most Browse or page through a text file
mount Mount a file system
mttools Manipulate MS-DOS files
mtr Network diagnostics (traceroute/ping)
mv Move or rename files or directories
mmv Mass Move and rename (files)

n

nc Netcat, read and write data across networks
netstat Networking connections/stats
nice Set the priority of a command or job
nl Number lines and write files
nohup Run a command immune to hangups
notify-send Send desktop notifications
nslookup Query Internet name servers interactively

o

open Open a file in its default application
op Operator access

p

passwd Modify a user password
paste Merge lines of files
pathchk Check file name portability
ping Test a network connection
pgrep List processes by name
pkill Kill processes by name
popd Restore the previous value of the current directory
pr Prepare files for printing
printcap Printer capability database
printenv Print environment variables
printf Format and print data •
ps Process status
pushd Save and then change the current directory
pv Monitor the progress of data through a pipe
pwd Print Working Directory

q

quota Display disk usage and limits
quotacheck Scan a file system for disk usage

r

ram ram disk device
rar Archive files with compression
rcp Copy files between two machines
read Read a line from standard input •
readarray Read from stdin into an array variable •
readonly Mark variables/functions as readonly
reboot Reboot the system
rename Rename files
renice Alter priority of running processes
remsync Synchronize remote files via email
return Exit a shell function
rev Reverse lines of a file
rm Remove files
rmdir Remove folder(s)
rsync Remote file copy (Synchronize file trees)

s

screen Multiplex terminal, run remote shells via ssh
scp Secure copy (remote file copy)
sdiff Merge two files interactively
sed Stream Editor
select Accept keyboard input
seq Print numeric sequences
set Manipulate shell variables and functions
sftp Secure File Transfer Program
shift Shift positional parameters
shopt Shell Options
shutdown Shutdown or restart linux

<code>sleep</code>	Delay for a specified time
<code>slocate</code>	Find files
<code>sort</code>	Sort text files
<code>source</code>	Run commands from a file <code>'.'</code>
<code>split</code>	Split a file into fixed-size pieces
<code>ss</code>	Socket Statistics
<code>ssh</code>	Secure Shell client (remote login program)
<code>stat</code>	Display file or file system status
<code>strace</code>	Trace system calls and signals
<code>su</code>	Substitute user identity
<code>sudo</code>	Execute a command as another user
<code>sum</code>	Print a checksum for a file
<code>suspend</code>	Suspend execution of this shell •
<code>sync</code>	Synchronize data on disk with memory
 <code>t</code>	
<code>tail</code>	Output the last part of file
<code>tar</code>	Store, list or extract files in an archive
<code>tee</code>	Redirect output to multiple files
<code>test</code>	Evaluate a conditional expression
<code>time</code>	Measure Program running time
<code>timeout</code>	Run a command with a time limit
<code>times</code>	User and system times
<code>touch</code>	Change file timestamps
<code>top</code>	List processes running on the system
<code>tput</code>	Set terminal-dependent capabilities, color, position
<code>traceroute</code>	Trace Route to Host
<code>trap</code>	Execute a command when the shell receives a signal •
<code>tr</code>	Translate, squeeze, and/or delete characters
<code>true</code>	Do nothing, successfully
<code>tsort</code>	Topological sort
<code>tty</code>	Print filename of terminal on stdin
<code>type</code>	Describe a command •
 <code>u</code>	
<code>ulimit</code>	Limit user resources •
<code>umask</code>	Users file creation mask
<code>umount</code>	Unmount a device
<code>unalias</code>	Remove an alias •
<code>uname</code>	Print system information
<code>unexpand</code>	Convert spaces to tabs
<code>uniq</code>	Uniquify files
<code>units</code>	Convert units from one scale to another
<code>unrar</code>	Extract files from a rar archive
<code>unset</code>	Remove variable or function names
<code>unshar</code>	Unpack shell archive scripts
<code>until</code>	Execute commands (until error)
<code>uptime</code>	Show uptime
<code>useradd</code>	Create new user account
<code>userdel</code>	Delete a user account
<code>usermod</code>	Modify user account
<code>users</code>	List users currently logged in
<code>uuencode</code>	Encode a binary file
<code>uudecode</code>	Decode a file created by uuencode
 <code>v</code>	
<code>v</code>	Verbosely list directory contents (<code>`ls -l -b'</code>)
<code>vdir</code>	Verbosely list directory contents (<code>`ls -l -b'</code>)
<code>vi</code>	Text Editor
<code>vmstat</code>	Report virtual memory statistics
 <code>w</code>	
<code>wait</code>	Wait for a process to complete •
<code>watch</code>	Execute/display a program periodically
<code>wc</code>	Print byte, word, and line counts
<code>whereis</code>	Search the user's \$path, man pages and source files for a program
<code>which</code>	Search the user's \$path for a program file
<code>while</code>	Execute commands
<code>who</code>	Print all usernames currently logged in
<code>whoami</code>	Print the current user id and name (<code>`id -un'</code>)
<code>wget</code>	Retrieve web pages or files via HTTP, HTTPS or FTP
<code>write</code>	Send a message to another user
 <code>x</code>	
<code>xargs</code>	Execute utility, passing constructed argument list(s)
<code>xdg-open</code>	Open a file or URL in the user's preferred application.
<code>xz</code>	Compress or decompress .xz and .lzma files
<code>yes</code>	Print a string until interrupted

zip	Package and compress (archive) files.
.	Run a command script in the current shell
!!	Run the last command again
###	Comment / Remark

Commands marked • are bash *built-ins*

Many commands particularly the Core Utils are also available under alternate [shells](#) (C shell, Korn shell etc).

More bash commands: [Linux Command Directory](#) from O'Reilly, GNU [CoreUtils](#).

[SS64 bash discussion forum](#)

[Links to other Sites, books etc](#)