

Package Management in Ubuntu (Debian-based Systems)

Category	Command	Description / Purpose
 Update System	<code>bash sudo apt update && sudo apt upgrade -y && sudo apt full-upgrade -y && sudo apt autoremove -y</code>	Updates the list of available packages, upgrades all installed packages to the latest versions, performs full upgrade, and removes unnecessary dependencies automatically.
 Install a Package	<code>bash sudo apt install nginx -y</code>	Installs the specified package (here, nginx) without asking for confirmation.
 Remove a Package	<code>bash sudo apt remove nginx -y</code>	Removes the specified package but keeps configuration files.
 Completely Remove (Purge)	<code>bash sudo apt purge nginx -y</code>	Removes the package and its configuration files.
 Search for a Package	<code>bash apt search python3</code>	Searches repositories for packages matching a keyword (e.g., python3).
 Package Information	<code>bash apt show nginx</code>	Displays detailed information about a package (version, dependencies, maintainer, etc.).
 List Installed Packages	<code>```bash dpkg -l grep nginx```</code>	
 Clean Package Cache	<code>bash sudo apt clean && sudo apt autoclean</code>	Removes downloaded package files to free up space. clean removes all, while autoclean removes only outdated ones.
 Auto Remove Unused Packages	<code>bash sudo apt autoremove -y</code>	Removes packages that were automatically installed but are no longer needed.
 Fix Broken Dependencies	<code>bash sudo apt --fix-broken install</code>	Repairs broken package installations or missing dependencies.
 List Upgradable Packages	<code>bash apt list --upgradable</code>	Shows all packages that have newer versions available for upgrade.
 Check Package Source / Repository	<code>bash apt policy nginx</code>	Displays which repository the package is coming from and its priority.
 Reconfigure a Package	<code>bash sudo dpkg-reconfigure package_name</code>	Reconfigures an already installed package interactively.
 Upgrade Ubuntu Release	<code>bash sudo do-release-upgrade</code>	Upgrades Ubuntu to the next available distribution release.

Service Management Commands (systemd-based Systems)

Category	Ubuntu/Debian Command	CentOS/RHEL Command	Description / Purpose
Start Service	<code>sudo systemctl start nginx</code>	<code>sudo systemctl start nginx</code>	Starts the specified service immediately.
Stop Service	<code>sudo systemctl stop nginx</code>	<code>sudo systemctl stop nginx</code>	Stops the specified service immediately.
Restart Service	<code>sudo systemctl restart nginx</code>	<code>sudo systemctl restart nginx</code>	Restarts a running service (useful after configuration changes).
Reload Service (without restart)	<code>sudo systemctl reload nginx</code>	<code>sudo systemctl reload nginx</code>	Reloads the service configuration without fully restarting it (if supported).
Enable Service (Auto-start on Boot)	<code>sudo systemctl enable nginx</code>	<code>sudo systemctl enable nginx</code>	Enables the service to start automatically at system boot.
Disable Service (No Auto-start)	<code>sudo systemctl disable nginx</code>	<code>sudo systemctl disable nginx</code>	Disables auto-start at boot time.
Check Service Status	<code>sudo systemctl status nginx</code>	<code>sudo systemctl status nginx</code>	Displays the current status, active state, logs, and PID of the service.
Reload Systemd Manager Configuration	<code>sudo systemctl daemon-reload</code>	<code>sudo systemctl daemon-reload</code>	Reloads systemd configurations (useful after editing service files).
List All Service Unit Files	<code>sudo systemctl list-unit-files --type=service</code>	<code>sudo systemctl list-unit-files --type=service</code>	Lists all available services and their enable/disable states.

 List Active (Running) Services	<code>systemctl list-units --type=service --state=running</code>	<code>systemctl list-units --type=service --state=running</code>	Shows only active (currently running) services.
 Check if Service is Enabled	<code>systemctl is-enabled nginx</code>	<code>systemctl is-enabled nginx</code>	Checks if a service is set to start automatically at boot.
 Check if Service is Active	<code>systemctl is-active nginx</code>	<code>systemctl is-active nginx</code>	Returns “active” or “inactive” for quick status checking.
 Mask a Service	<code>sudo systemctl mask nginx</code>	<code>sudo systemctl mask nginx</code>	Prevents a service from being started manually or automatically.
 Unmask a Service	<code>sudo systemctl unmask nginx</code>	<code>sudo systemctl unmask nginx</code>	Reverses masking, allowing the service to start again.
 View Recent Logs for a Service	<code>sudo journalctl -u nginx</code>	<code>sudo journalctl -u nginx</code>	Shows logs specific to the given service.
 View Real-time Logs (Live Monitoring)	<code>sudo journalctl -u nginx -f</code>	<code>sudo journalctl -u nginx -f</code>	Streams live logs from the service in real-time.

File System Operations (Ubuntu/Debian & CentOS/RHEL)

Category	Command	Applies To	Description / Purpose
 Check Disk Usage	<code>df -h</code>	Both	Displays disk space usage for all mounted file systems in human-readable format.
 Check Directory Size	<code>du -sh /var/log</code>	Both	Shows the total size of the specified directory (<code>/var/log</code>).
 Find Files by Name	<code>find /home -name "*.log"</code>	Both	Searches for all files with <code>.log</code> extension in the <code>/home</code> directory.
 Find Recently Modified Files	<code>find /var -mtime -7</code>	Both	Finds files in <code>/var</code> that were modified within the last 7 days.
 Count Files in a Directory	<code>find /dir -type f wc -l</code>	Both	
 Search Text in Files	<code>grep -r "error" /var/log/</code>	Both	Searches recursively for the word “error” in all files under <code>/var/log/</code> .
 Follow Live Log Output	<code>tail -f /var/log/syslog</code>	Both	Displays live updates from the log file (<code>syslog</code>). <i>(Use <code>/var/log/messages</code> in CentOS)</i>
 Create Archive (Compress Directory)	<code>tar -czf archive.tar.gz /dir</code>	Both	Creates a compressed <code>.tar.gz</code> archive of the specified directory.
 Extract Archive	<code>tar -xzf archive.tar.gz</code>	Both	Extracts files from a compressed <code>.tar.gz</code> archive.
 View Contents of Archive	<code>tar -tzf archive.tar.gz</code>	Both	Lists all files contained inside an archive without extracting them.
 Delete Old Files	<code>find /var/log -type f -mtime +30 -delete</code>	Both	Deletes files older than 30 days in <code>/var/log</code> .
 Check File System Type	<code>df -Th</code>	Both	Displays mounted partitions along with their file system types (e.g., <code>ext4, xfs</code>).

 Check File Permissions	<code>ls -lh /path/to/file</code>	Both	Displays detailed file information (including size, owner, and permissions).
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Networking Commands (Ubuntu/Debian & CentOS/RHEL)

Category	Command	Applies To	Description / Purpose
 Show IP Addresses	<code>ip addr show (or) ip a</code>	Both	Displays all network interfaces and their assigned IP addresses.
 Show Interface Details	<code>ifconfig (requires net-tools package)</code>	Both	Shows network interfaces, IPs, MAC addresses, and packet stats.
 Check Listening Ports	<code>ss -tulpn</code>	Both	Lists all active listening ports with associated services and PIDs.
 Test Network Connectivity	<code>ping google.com</code>	Both	Sends ICMP packets to test connectivity and packet loss.
 DNS Lookup	<code>nslookup domain.com (or) dig domain.com</code>	Both	Performs a DNS resolution to find the IP address of a domain.
 Trace Network Route	<code>traceroute google.com</code>	Both	Traces the network path (hops) packets take to reach a host.
 Download File via HTTP/HTTPS	<code>wget https://example.com/file.zip</code>	Both	Downloads files from the internet using HTTP, HTTPS, or FTP.

HTTP Header Check (Web Response Test)	<code>curl -I http://domain.com</code>	Both	Fetches only HTTP headers to verify website response and status.
Network Interface Statistics	<code>netstat -i (or) ip -s link</code>	Both	Displays interface statistics such as packets transmitted and errors.
Restart Network Service	<code>sudo systemctl restart networking (Ubuntu)</code> <code>sudo systemctl restart network (CentOS)</code>	Both	Restarts the network service (useful after configuration changes).
Show Routing Table	<code>ip route show</code>	Both	Displays current network routes and gateway settings.
Check Open Connections	<code>netstat -antp (or) ss -antp</code>	Both	Lists all established TCP connections and listening ports.
Display Hostname and IP Info	<code>hostname -I (IPs)</code> <code>hostnamectl (system info)</code>	Both	Displays hostname and related network configuration details.
Flush DNS Cache	<code>sudo systemd-resolve --flush-caches</code> <i>(Ubuntu)</i> <code>sudo systemctl restart nscd (CentOS)</code>	Both	Clears cached DNS entries.
Check Network Speed / Latency	<code>ping -c 10 8.8.8.8</code>	Both	Sends 10 pings to measure network speed and packet delay.

🔥 Firewall Management (Ubuntu/Debian & CentOS/RHEL)

Category	Ubuntu/Debian Command (UFW)	CentOS/RHEL Command (Firewalld)	Description / Purpose
🔍 Check Firewall Status	<code>sudo ufw status verbose</code>	<code>sudo firewall-cmd --state</code>	Checks the current status of the firewall (active/inactive or running).
🟢 Enable Firewall	<code>sudo ufw enable</code>	<code>sudo systemctl enable firewalld --now</code>	Enables and starts the firewall service immediately.
🔴 Disable Firewall	<code>sudo ufw disable</code>	<code>sudo systemctl disable firewalld --now</code>	Disables and stops the firewall service.
🟠 Allow Port (e.g., SSH)	<code>sudo ufw allow 22/tcp</code>	<code>sudo firewall-cmd --permanent --add-port=22/tcp sudo firewall-cmd --reload</code>	Opens a specific TCP/UDP port permanently.
🚫 Deny Port (e.g., SSH)	<code>sudo ufw deny 22/tcp</code>	<code>sudo firewall-cmd --permanent --remove-port=22/tcp sudo firewall-cmd --reload</code>	Blocks access to a specific port.
🌐 Allow Service (by name)	<code>sudo ufw allow 'Nginx Full'</code>	<code>sudo firewall-cmd --permanent --add-service=http sudo firewall-cmd --reload</code>	Allows predefined services (e.g., HTTP, HTTPS, SSH).
🧾 List All Rules / Allowed Ports	<code>sudo ufw status numbered</code>	<code>sudo firewall-cmd --list-all</code>	Displays all active firewall rules and allowed services.
✍️ Delete a Specific Rule	<code>sudo ufw delete <rule_number></code>	<code>sudo firewall-cmd --permanent --remove-service=https sudo</code>	Deletes a specific rule from the firewall configuration.

 Reload Firewall Rules	<code>sudo ufw reload</code>	<code>firewall-cmd --reload</code>	Reloads firewall configurations without restarting the service.
 View Recent Blocked Logs	<code>sudo less /var/log/ufw.log</code>	<code>sudo less /var/log/firewalld</code>	Shows recent blocked or allowed connection logs.
 Show All Zones	<i>N/A (UFW has no zones)</i>	<code>sudo firewall-cmd --list-all-zones</code>	Displays all available network zones and their rules.
 Assign Interface to Zone	<i>N/A</i>	<code>sudo firewall-cmd --zone=public --change-interface=eth0 --permanent</code>	Assigns a specific network interface to a firewall zone.
 Check Active Zones & Interfaces	<i>N/A</i>	<code>sudo firewall-cmd --get-active-zones</code>	Shows which zones and interfaces are currently active.

User & Permission Management (Ubuntu/Debian & CentOS/RHEL)

Category	Ubuntu/Debian Command	CentOS/RHEL Command	Description / Purpose
Add New User (with Home Directory)	<code>sudo useradd -m john</code>	<code>sudo useradd -m john</code>	Creates a new user named <code>john</code> with a home directory <code>/home/john</code> .
Set User Password	<code>sudo passwd john</code>	<code>sudo passwd john</code>	Sets or changes the password for the specified user.
Add User to Group	<code>sudo usermod -aG group john</code>	<code>sudo usermod -aG group john</code>	Adds a user to a specific group (without removing existing group memberships).
Grant Sudo Access	<code>sudo usermod -aG sudo john</code>	<code>sudo usermod -aG wheel john</code>	Grants administrative (<code>sudo</code>) privileges to the user by adding them to the <code>sudo/wheel</code> group.
Delete User (Keep Home Directory)	<code>sudo userdel john</code>	<code>sudo userdel john</code>	Deletes a user but retains their home directory and files.
Delete User (Remove Home Directory)	<code>sudo userdel -r john</code>	<code>sudo userdel -r john</code>	Deletes the user and their home directory completely.
List All Users	<code>cut -d: -f1 /etc/passwd</code>	<code>cut -d: -f1 /etc/passwd</code>	Lists all users on the system.
List All Groups	<code>cut -d: -f1 /etc/group</code>	<code>cut -d: -f1 /etc/group</code>	Lists all existing groups.
Check User Groups	<code>groups john</code>	<code>groups john</code>	Displays all groups a user belongs to.
Change File Permissions	<code>chmod 755 script.sh</code>	<code>chmod 755 script.sh</code>	Sets read, write, and execute permissions for the owner, and read/execute for others.
Change File Owner	<code>sudo chown user:group file.txt</code>	<code>sudo chown user:group file.txt</code>	Changes the ownership of a file or directory.

 Make File Executable	<code>chmod +x script.sh</code>	<code>chmod +x script.sh</code>	Grants execute permission to the file owner (makes it runnable).
 Switch User Account	<code>su - username</code>	<code>su - username</code>	Switches to another user account (requires password of the target user).
 View Current User	<code>whoami</code>	<code>whoami</code>	Displays the name of the currently logged-in user.
 Show Login History	<code>last</code>	<code>last</code>	Shows the history of user logins and reboots.
 Check Current Logged-in Users	<code>who</code>	<code>who</code>	Lists users currently logged into the system.
 Modify User Info (Full Name, etc.)	<code>sudo chfn john</code>	<code>sudo chfn john</code>	Updates a user's personal details such as full name or office info.

Process Management (Ubuntu/Debian & CentOS/RHEL)

Category	Ubuntu/Debian Command	CentOS/RH EL Command	Description / Purpose
 Show All Running Processes	<code>ps aux</code>	<code>ps aux</code>	Displays all running processes with detailed information (user, CPU, memory, PID, etc.).
 Find Specific Process	<code>'ps aux grep nginx'</code>	<code>'ps aux grep nginx'</code>	
 Interactive Process Monitor	<code>top</code>	<code>top</code>	Displays live CPU, memory usage, and process details interactively.
 Enhanced Process Monitor	<code>htop (install if needed)</code>	<code>htop (install if needed)</code>	A user-friendly, colorized, interactive process viewer (better than <code>top</code>).
 Kill Process by PID	<code>kill -9 PID</code>	<code>kill -9 PID</code>	Forcefully terminates a process using its Process ID (PID).
 Kill Process by Name	<code>pkill nginx</code>	<code>pkill nginx</code>	Terminates all processes matching a specific name (e.g., <code>nginx</code>).
 View Process Tree	<code>pstree</code>	<code>pstree</code>	Displays processes in a hierarchical tree structure.
 Show Top CPU-Consuming Processes	<code>'ps -eo pid,comm,%cpu,%mem --sort=-%cpu'</code>	<code>'head'</code>	<code>'ps -eo pid,comm,%cpu,%mem --sort=-%cpu'</code>
 Show Top Memory-Consuming Processes	<code>'ps -eo pid,comm,%cpu,%mem --sort=-%mem'</code>	<code>'head'</code>	<code>'ps -eo pid,comm,%cpu,%mem --sort=-%mem'</code>
 Stop (Suspend) a Foreground Job	<code>Ctrl + Z</code>	<code>Ctrl + Z</code>	Suspends a running foreground job and places it in the background.

Resume Job in Background	<code>bg %1</code>	<code>bg %1</code>	Resumes the specified suspended job to run in the background.
Bring Job to Foreground	<code>fg %1</code>	<code>fg %1</code>	Brings a background job back to the foreground.
List Background Jobs	<code>jobs -l</code>	<code>jobs -l</code>	Displays all current background and suspended jobs.
Show Process for a Specific User	<code>ps -u username</code>	<code>ps -u username</code>	Lists all processes owned by a specific user.
View System Resource Summary	<code>vmstat 1</code>	<code>vmstat 1</code>	Displays system resource usage every 1 second (CPU, memory, I/O).
Kill All Processes by User	<code>sudo pkill -u username</code>	<code>sudo pkill -u username</code>	Terminates all processes owned by the specified user.

System Information Commands

Category	Ubuntu/Debian Command	CentOS/RHEL Command	Description
OS Version	<code>cat /etc/os-release</code>	<code>cat /etc/os-release</code>	Show OS information
Kernel Version	<code>uname -a</code>	<code>uname -a</code>	Show kernel version
CPU Info	<code>lscpu</code>	<code>lscpu</code>	Show CPU information
Memory Info	<code>free -h</code>	<code>free -h</code>	Show memory usage
Uptime	<code>uptime</code>	<code>uptime</code>	Show system uptime and load
Hardware Info	<code>lshw</code>	<code>lshw</code>	Show detailed hardware information
USB Devices	<code>lsusb</code>	<code>lsusb</code>	List USB devices

PCI Devices	lspci	lspci	List PCI devices
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Docker & Container Management Commands

Category	Ubuntu/Debian Command	CentOS/RHEL Command	Description
Start Docker	<code>sudo systemctl start docker</code>	<code>sudo systemctl start docker</code>	Start Docker service
Enable Docker	<code>sudo systemctl enable docker</code>	<code>sudo systemctl enable docker</code>	Enable Docker on boot
Run Container	<code>docker run -d -p 80:80 nginx</code>	<code>docker run -d -p 80:80 nginx</code>	Run container in background
List Containers	<code>docker ps -a</code>	<code>docker ps -a</code>	List all containers
Stop Container	<code>docker stop container_id</code>	<code>docker stop container_id</code>	Stop a running container
Container Logs	<code>docker logs container_id</code>	<code>docker logs container_id</code>	Show container logs
Remove Container	<code>docker rm container_id</code>	<code>docker rm container_id</code>	Remove a container
Docker Images	<code>docker images</code>	<code>docker images</code>	List all Docker images

Troubleshooting & Logs Management Commands

Category	Ubuntu/Debian Command	CentOS/RHEL Command	Description
System Logs	<code>journalctl -xe</code>	<code>journalctl -xe</code>	View detailed system logs
Log Files	<code>tail -f /var/log/syslog</code>	<code>tail -f /var/log/messages</code>	Follow system logs in real-time
Error Search	<code>grep -i error /var/log/syslog</code>	<code>grep -i error /var/log/messages</code>	Search for "error" in log files
Disk Check	<code>sudo fsck /dev/sda1</code>	<code>sudo fsck /dev/sda1</code>	Check and repair file system
Memory Test	<code>sudo memtester 1G 1</code>	<code>sudo memtester 1G 1</code>	Test system RAM for errors
Service Debug	<code>systemctl status service-name</code>	<code>systemctl status service-name</code>	Check status and logs of a service
Network Debug	<code>ping -c 4 google.com</code>	<code>ping -c 4 google.com</code>	Test network connectivity
Port Check	<code>telnet host port</code>	<code>telnet host port</code>	Check if a specific port is open