≡ ◯ rishabh201 / **unit_1**   🔍 ▢ 👤

<> **Code** ⊙ Issues ⑂ Pull requests ▷ Actions ⊞ Projects 📖 Wiki ⊘ Security ~ In

⊟ ⑂ **main** ▾   **unit_1** / **basic** / **basic.md** ⎘   ⋯

◯ **rishabh201** Update basic.md   7de608e · 3 minutes ago ⟲

239 lines (155 loc) · 4.23 KB

Here's a **detailed tutorial on basic terminal commands** that work on **Linux, macOS, and Git Bash (Windows)**. These commands are essential for navigating and managing files from the terminal, especially for coding and version control (e.g., Git, VS Code, etc.).

✅ 1. Navigation Commands

`pwd` – Print Working Directory

Shows the current location in the filesystem.

```
pwd                                                                    ⎘
```

📌 Output example:

```
/Users/yourname/projects                                               ⎘
```

`ls` – List Directory Contents

Lists files and folders in the current directory.

```
ls
```

- `ls -l` → Detailed list (permissions, size, date)
- `ls -a` → Shows hidden files (those starting with `.`)
- `ls -la` → Combined

```
vboxuser@ubuntu1:~/Desktop$ ls
hello  hello.c  parent_folder
```

`cd` – Change Directory

Moves into a directory.

```
cd folder_name
```

main ⌄   unit_1 / basic / basic.md   ↑ Top

Preview   Code   Blame   Raw

```
cd Documents        # Go to Documents
cd ..               # Go up one level
cd /                # Go to root
cd ~                # Go to home directory
```

✅ 2. File and Directory Management

`mkdir` – Make Directory

Creates a new folder.

```
mkdir new_folder
```

```
vboxuser@ubuntu1:~/Desktop/parent_folder$ mkdir newfolder
```

`touch` – Create File

Creates an empty file.

```
touch file.txt
```

```
vboxuser@ubuntu1:~/Desktop/parent_folder$ touch file.txt
```

cp – Copy Files or Directories

```
cp source.txt destination.txt
```

```
vboxuser@ubuntu1:~/Desktop/parent_folder$ cp file.txt  file2.txt
```

- Copy folder:

```
cp -r folder1 folder2
```

```
vboxuser@ubuntu1:~/Desktop/parent_folder$ mkdir folder2
vboxuser@ubuntu1:~/Desktop/parent_folder$ cp -r newfolder folder2
```

mv – Move or Rename Files

```
mv oldname.txt newname.txt
```

```
mv file.txt ~/Documents/      # Move file
```

rm – Remove Files

```
rm file.txt          # Delete file
rm -r folder_name    # Delete folder (recursively)
```

```
vboxuser@ubuntu1:~/Desktop/parent_folder$ rm file.txt
```

⚠️ **Be careful!** There is no undo.

✅ 3. File Viewing & Editing

`cat` – View File Contents

Displays content in terminal.

```
cat file.txt
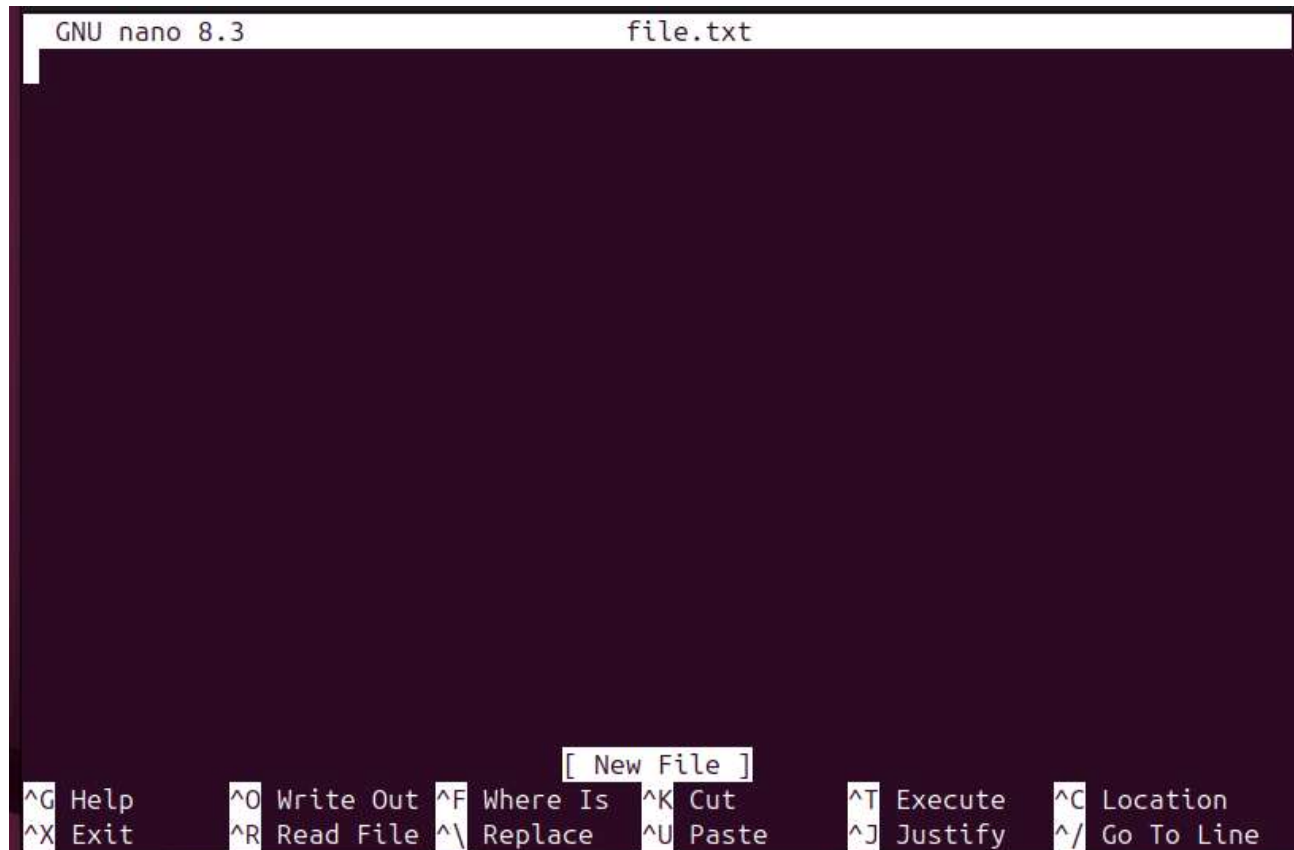```

## `nano` – Edit Files in Terminal

A basic terminal-based text editor.

```
nano file.txt
```

- Use arrows to move
- `CTRL + O` to save
- `CTRL + X` to exit

```
vboxuser@ubuntu1:~/Desktop$ nano file.txt
  GNU nano 8.3                    file.txt



█




                              [ New File ]
^G Help        ^O Write Out ^F Where Is   ^K Cut        ^T Execute  ^C Location
^X Exit        ^R Read File ^\ Replace    ^U Paste      ^J Justify  ^/ Go To Line
```

`clear` – Clears the Terminal

```
clear
```

Shortcut: CTRL + L

```
vboxuser@ubuntu1:~/Desktop/parent_folder$
```

✅ 4. System Commands

`echo` – Print Text

Useful for debugging or scripting.

```
echo "Hello, World!"
```

```
vboxuser@ubuntu1:~/Desktop/parent_folder$ echo "hello world"
hello world
```

whoami – Show Current User

```
whoami
```

```
vboxuser@ubuntu1:~/Desktop/parent_folder$ whoami
vboxuser
```

man – Manual for Any Command

```
man ls
```

Use `q` to quit the manual.

✅ 5. Searching and Finding

find – Locate Files

```
find . -name "*.txt"
```

🔍 Finds all `.txt` files in current folder and subfolders.

[📷alt text](#)

grep – Search Inside Files

```
grep "hello" file.txt
```

🔍 Searches for the word `hello` inside `file.txt`.

✅ 6. Helpful Shortcuts

Shortcut	Action
Tab	Auto-complete files/folders
↑ / ↓	Browse command history
CTRL + C	Stop a running command
CTRL + L	Clear screen

✅ 7. Bonus: Chaining Commands

- **Run multiple commands:**

```
mkdir test && cd test && touch hello.txt
```

- **Run only if previous command succeeds:** `&&`
- **Run regardless of success:** `;`