

In-Depth Cheat Sheet

Core Linux Commands – Detailed Explanations

awk – Pattern scanning and processing language

Purpose: Used to process and analyze text line by line, split into fields.

Syntax:

```
awk 'pattern {action}' filename
```

Explanation:

- **awk** processes a file one line at a time.
- By default, it splits each line into fields based on whitespace (or a delimiter using **-F**).
- **\$1**, **\$2**, etc. represent fields.

Examples:

```
awk '{print $1}' file.txt           # Print the first word from each line
awk -F: '{print $1, $3}' /etc/passwd # Show username and UID
awk '/bash/ {print $1}' /etc/passwd # Print lines containing 'bash'
```

cat – Concatenate and print file contents

Purpose: View file contents or combine files.

Syntax:

```
cat filename
```

Examples:

```
cat file.txt           # View file
cat file1.txt file2.txt > all.txt # Combine two files into one
```

cp – Copy files and directories

Purpose: Make a copy of a file or directory.

Syntax:

```
cp [options] source target
```

Important Flags:

- **-r**: Recursively copy directories
- **-p**: Preserve file attributes

Examples:

```
cp file.txt backup/ # Copy file to directory  
cp -r project/ /tmp/project_copy/ # Recursively copy a folder
```

cut – Remove sections from each line of input

Purpose: Extract specific fields or characters.

Syntax:

```
cut -d'[delimiter]' -f[field_number] filename
```

Examples:

```
cut -d':' -f1 /etc/passwd # Show usernames  
cut -c1-4 file.txt # Show first 4 characters of each line
```

grep – Search text using patterns

Purpose: Filter lines from input that match a search pattern.

Syntax:

```
grep [options] pattern filename
```

Common Flags:

- **-i**: Case-insensitive
- **-v**: Invert match (exclude)
- **-r**: Recursively search directories

Examples:

```
grep root /etc/passwd          # Show lines with 'root'
grep -i error syslog.log       # Case-insensitive match
grep -v bash /etc/passwd       # Show lines without 'bash'
```

head and **tail** – Show file beginnings and ends

Purpose: View first or last lines of a file.

Examples:

```
head -n 10 log.txt             # First 10 lines
tail -n 5 log.txt              # Last 5 lines
tail -f log.txt                 # Live stream of new lines
```

ls – List directory contents

Purpose: See files and directories.

Useful Flags:

- **-l**: Long list format
- **-a**: Show hidden files
- **-h**: Human-readable file sizes

Examples:

```
ls                             # Basic list
ls -lah                        # Detailed with hidden files
```

man – Manual pages for commands

Purpose: Look up documentation.

Usage:

```
man ls                         # Open manual for 'ls'
man -k "search"                # Search by keyword
```

- Use **/term** to search inside the man page.

mkdir – Create directories

Purpose: Make new folders.

Examples:

```
mkdir newdir                # Simple folder
mkdir -p a/b/c              # Create nested folders
```

mv – Move or rename files/directories

Purpose: Rename or relocate files.

Examples:

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

tac – Reverse version of cat

Purpose: Print file lines in reverse order.

Examples:

```
tac log.txt                 # Reverse log view
```

touch – Create new files or update timestamps

Purpose: Quickly make empty files or update last-modified times.

Examples:

```
touch test.txt              # New file
touch file{1..3}.log        # Multiple files
```

tr – Translate or delete characters

Purpose: Convert or clean up text.

Examples:

```
echo "hello" | tr 'a-z' 'A-Z'    # Convert to uppercase
cat notes.txt | tr -d '0-9'      # Remove all digits
```

tree – Visual tree of directory

Purpose: Show directory structure.

Examples:

```
tree                                # Full structure
tree -L 2                          # Limit depth
```

Redirection and Pipes

Redirection

- `>`: Overwrite file with output
- `>>`: Append output
- `<`: Use a file as input

Examples:

```
echo "Start" > file.txt           # New file or overwrite
echo "Another" >> file.txt        # Append
cat < file.txt                    # Read from file
```

Pipes

Purpose: Send output of one command as input to another.

Examples:

```
ls -l | less                      # Scroll output
ps aux | grep ssh                 # Search running processes
```



Wildcards and Brace Expansion

Wildcards

- `*`: Match any characters

- `?:` Match a single character

Examples:

```
ls *.txt           # All text files
rm file?.txt       # file1.txt, file2.txt
```

Brace Expansion

Examples:

```
mkdir {logs,backup,temp}  # Create multiple folders
touch file{A,B,C}.txt     # fileA.txt, fileB.txt...
```

Shell Scripting

Basic Script

```
#!/bin/bash
echo "This is a script"
```

Variables

```
name="Rodrigo"
echo "Welcome $name"
```

Substitution

```
now=$(date)
echo "It is now $now"
```

Execution

```
chmod +x script.sh
./script.sh
```

Mandatory Practice Scripts

Script 1

```
#!/bin/bash
echo -e "\n User: $USER"
echo -e "\tHome: $HOME"
echo -e "\tCurrent Dir: $PWD"
cd ~
echo "At home: $PWD"
```

Script 4

```
#!/bin/bash
echo " "
echo "  Linux  "
echo " "
```

Script 5

```
#!/bin/bash
dir="exam"
file="ready.txt"
mkdir "$dir"
touch "$dir/$file"
tree "$dir"
```



How to Create and Clone a GitHub Repository in Linux

✂ 1. Create the Repository on GitHub (in browser)

- Go to <https://github.com>
- Click the + icon → **New repository**
- Enter repository name (e.g., `linux-final`)
- Optional: add description
- Choose **Public** or **Private**
- ⚠ Do NOT initialize with README for CLI setup
- Click **Create repository**



2. Clone the Repository in Linux

```
git clone https://github.com/your-username/linux-final.git
cd linux-final
```



3. Create or Edit Files

```
touch notes.md  
nano notes.md
```



4. Add, Commit, and Push

```
git add .  
git commit -m "Initial commit"  
git push origin main
```

If first push fails:

```
git push -u origin main
```

💡 Use a GitHub Personal Access Token if Git asks for your password.



Filesystem Concepts

Absolute vs Relative Paths

- Absolute: Full path from root /
- Relative: Path from current working directory

Examples:

```
cd /etc                # Absolute  
cd ../Documents        # Relative
```