



UNIX

Command Reference - Basics

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File Commands

ls – lists working directory files
ls -al – formatted ls
cd *dir* – changes working directory to *dir*
cd – change to home directory
pwd – print/show working directory
mkdir *dir* – create directory *dir*
rm *file* – remove/delete entity *file*
rm -r *dir* – delete directory *dir*
rm -f *file* – force remove *file*
rm -rf *dir* – for remove directory *dir**
cp *file1 file2* – copy *file1* to *file2*
cp -r *dir1 dir2* – create clone/copy *dir1* to *dir2*
mv *file1 file2* – rename/move *file1* to *file2*
ln -s *file link* – creates symbolic link *link* to *file*
touch *file* – create or update *file*
cat > *file* – places standard input into *file*
more *file* – output the contents of *file*
head *file* – outputs the first 10 lines of *file*
tail *file* – outputs the last 10 lines of *file*
nano – opens a text editor
nano *file.txt* – opens *file* in text editor

Searching

. – relative path to go to current directory
.. – relative path to go to parent directory
~ – relative path to go to home directory
***** – wildcard; matches any characters
[xyz] – matches any character: *x*, *y*, or *z*
grep *pattern files* – search for *pattern* in *files*
grep -r *pattern dir* – search for *pattern* in *dir*
command* | grep *pattern – *pattern* in *command* output
locate *file* – find all instances of *file*

Network

ping *host* – ping *host* and output results
whois *domain* – display information for *domain*
dig *domain* – get DNS information for *domain*
dig -x *host* – reverse lookup *host*
wget *file* – download *file*
wget -c *file* – continue a stopped download

System Information

date – show the current date and time
cal – show current month's calendar
uptime – show current uptime
w – display users who are online
whoami – display current user
finger *user* – display information about *user*
uname -a – show kernel information
cat /proc/cpuinfo – display cpu information
cat /proc/meminfo – display memory information
man *command* – display manual for *command*
df – show disk usage
du – show directory space usage
free – show memory and swap usage
whereis *app* – shows possible locations of *app*
which *app* – show which *app* will run by default

File Permissions

chmod *octal file* – change permission of *file* to *octal*; is then found separately for user, group, world.

	owner	group	world	
d	r w x	r w x	r w x	

d – directory e – execute = 1
.
l – link w – write = 2
 r – read = 4

Process Management

ps – display currently active processes
top – display all running processes
kill *pid* – kill processes with id *pid*
killall *process* – kill all processes names *processes**
bg – lists or resumes background jobs
fg – brings the most recent job to the foreground
fg *n* – brings job *n* to the foreground

Shortcuts

CTRL-c – kill current process
CTRL-insert – copy selected text to clipboard
SHIFT-insert – paste clipboard contents to terminal
CTRL-d – log out of current session; equivalent to **exit**
CTRL-w – erases word in the current line
CTRL-u – erases current line
CTRL-r – bring up recent command
!! – repeats the last command