

- user management is a fundamental administrative task used to control who can access the system and what actions they can perform.

1. Types of User Accounts :

- **Root User:** The "superuser" (UID 0) with unrestricted access to all files and commands.
- **System Users:** Accounts (typically UIDs 1–999) created to run specific background services like mysql

1. Adding and Removing Users

- **useradd:** The low-level utility to create a new user.
 - *Example:* sudo useradd -m johndoe (The -m flag creates a home directory).
- **adduser:** An interactive, more user-friendly script (common on Debian/Ubuntu) that asks for passwords and details automatically.
- **userdel:** Deletes a user.
 - *Tip:* Use sudo userdel -r username to remove their home directory and files too.

2. Modifying Users

- **usermod:**
 - **Add to a group:** sudo usermod -aG sudo username (The -a is crucial for *appending*, otherwise you'll remove them from all other groups!).
 - **Lock an account:** sudo usermod -L username.
- **passwd:** Changes a user's password.
 - *Example:* sudo passwd username.

3. Group Management

Groups allow you to manage permissions for multiple people at once.

- **groupadd**: Create a new group (e.g., `sudo groupadd developers`).
- **groupdel**: Remove a group.
- **groups**: See which groups a specific user belongs to.

Core commands:

Task	Command	Example
Add User	<code>useradd</code>	<code>sudo useradd -m username</code> (creates home directory)
Set Password	<code>passwd</code>	<code>sudo passwd username</code>
Modify User	<code>usermod</code>	<code>sudo usermod -aG sudo username</code> (adds to sudo group)
Delete User	<code>userdel</code>	<code>sudo userdel -r username</code> (removes home directory)
Identify User	<code>id</code>	<code>id username</code> (shows UID, GID, and groups)
Switch User	<code>su</code>	<code>su - username</code> (switches to the user's environment)

➤ file management is handled primarily through a tree-like hierarchical structure starting from the **root (/)** directory.

Core commands:

Task	Command	Example
List Files	<code>ls</code>	<code>ls -lh</code> (human-readable sizes and details)
Create File	<code>touch</code>	<code>touch report.txt</code> (creates a blank file)

Create Folder	<code>mkdir</code>	<code>mkdir -p projects/2024</code> (creates nested folders)
Copy	<code>cp</code>	<code>cp file.txt /backup/</code>
Move/Rename	<code>mv</code>	<code>mv old.txt new.txt</code> (renames or moves)
Delete	<code>rm</code>	<code>rm -rf folder_name</code> (deletes folder and contents)
View Content	<code>cat / less</code>	<code>less large_file.log</code> (scrollable view)

2. File System Hierarchy (FHS)

Linux organizes system files into standard directories defined by the [Filesystem Hierarchy Standard](#):

- `/bin`: Essential user command binaries (e.g., `ls`, `cp`).
- `/etc`: System-wide configuration files (the "nerve centre" of Linux).
- `/home`: Personal directories for regular users.
- `/tmp`: Temporary files, often cleared on reboot.
- `/var`: Variable data like system logs (`/var/log`).
- `/dev`: Special files representing hardware devices.

3. Permissions and Ownership

Every file has an **Owner**, a **Group**, and **Others** (the rest of the world). You can see these by running `ls -l`.

- **Permissions:** [Read \(r\), Write \(w\), and Execute \(x\)](#).
- **Changing Permissions:** Use `chmod` (e.g., `chmod 755 script.sh` makes it executable).
- **Changing Ownership:** Use `chown` (e.g., `sudo chown user:group file.txt`).

4. Navigation Shortcuts

- . : Represents the **current** directory.
- .. : Represents the **parent** directory (use cd .. to go up).
- ~ : Represents your **Home** directory.
- pwd : Prints your current working directory path so you don't get lost.

Process Management(systemctl , journalctl, units (service) :

- A **unit** is any resource systemd can manage, such as services, sockets, or mount points.

Managing Services with `systemctl`

The `systemctl` command is the primary interface for controlling the state of services.

Action	Command	Description
Start	<code>sudo systemctl start <name></code>	Starts a service immediately.
Stop	<code>sudo systemctl stop <name></code>	Stops a running service.
Restart	<code>sudo systemctl restart <name></code>	Stops and then starts the service again.
Reload	<code>sudo systemctl reload <name></code>	Reloads configuration without stopping the service.
Enable	<code>sudo systemctl enable <name></code>	Sets service to start automatically at boot.
Disable	<code>sudo systemctl disable <name></code>	Prevents service from starting at boot.
Status	<code>systemctl status <name></code>	Shows if a service is running, its PID, and recent logs.
Mask	<code>sudo systemctl mask <name></code>	Completely prevents a service from starting (stronger than disable).

- The **journal** is a centralized binary log that collects data from the kernel and all system services.
- **View all logs:** `journalctl` (starts from the oldest entries).
- **Filter by service:** `journalctl -u <service-name>` (most common for debugging).

- **Real-time logs:** journalctl -f (tails the log, showing new entries as they happen).

➤ Volume Management (LVM)

- **Concept:** Creates flexible virtual partitions that can span multiple disks.
- **Workflow:** Physical Volume (pvcreate) → Volume Group (vgcreate) → Logical Volume (lvcreate).
- **Key Benefit:** Easily resize partitions without formatting disks.

➤ The "Big Four" Tools

Tool	Primary Use	Example
find	Locate files by name, size, or time.	find / -name "*.log"
grep	Search text for specific patterns/words.	grep "error" app.log
sed	Modify text (find & replace) in a stream.	sed 's/old/new/g' file.txt
awk	Extract columns and process data fields.	awk '{print \$1}' data.csv