

What is an Operating system?

Operating system is a mega computer program having millions of lines of code written in several languages. It is a system software, a software designed to provide platform to other software, that manages a computer's hardware and acts as an intermediary between the computer user and the computer hardware.

What is Linux?

People those who are not very aware of technical terminologies often find *Linux* to be something really glorious coming from the Neptune. But really Linux is nothing but an operating system like Windows. The kernel of which was first released by Linus Torvalds in 1991 who also invented the Git. Linux has an open source license which means you can download the source code, modify it and submit changes to it.

Why to use Linux?

The main reason one would choose Linux is its efficiency in terms of managing memory. Linux is really fast. I have been using Ubuntu – a Linux distribution – for two years. It is pretty evident from my usage experience that Linux is faster than Windows. Linux offers multi-tasking, multi-threading, multi-processing, security, portability and reliability features.

What is a Linux Terminal?

Terminal is an application program in Linux that turns up when a user presses Ctrl+T and that in turn loads another program inside it called Shell which is a command line interpreter program that takes command from keyboard and passes it to the OS. There are different shells in the market such as:

Bourne shell – Bourne shell The most basic shell available on all UNIX systems

Korn Shell – Based on the Bourne shell with enhancements

C Shell – similar to the C programming language in syntax

Bash Shell – Bourne Again Shell combines the advantages of the Korn Shell and the C Shell. The default on most Linux distributions.

tcsh – similar to the C Shell.

Few Popular Linux Commands:

prompt – denotes administrative level

\$ prompt – denotes user level

In Linux:

'/' = Directory operator

'\' = Escape operator

In DOS:

'/' = Command argument

Create:

- useradd <username> - add user
- passwd <username> - creation of user password
- userdel <username> - Delete the username

Switching:

- su <username> - switch to another user
- su – switch to root account
- su- - switch to root and log in with root's environment

- cat <filename> - create new file
- cat <filename> - show the content of the filename
- cat -n <filename> - show the content with the line numbers
- file <filename> - to know what type of file it is
- head <filename> - display first 10 lines of a text filename

- tail <filename> - display last 10 lines of a text filename
- cp <sourcefile> <destinationfile> - Move or rename file

- mv <sourcefile> <destinationfile> - move or rename file
- rm <filename> - delete file
- mkdir<dirname> - create directory
- pwd – show present working directory
- cd – change directory
- cd ~ - shortcut for home directory
- cd.. - back to the previous directory
- vi <filename> - create file using vi text editor
- ls -l – display with long list
- ls -al – display long list with hidden files start with '.'
- ls -ld – long list of directory (only directory detail)
- find .-name*<filename extension> - search from current directory and sub directories for the filename extension
- ps – show currently executing processor
- w (or who) – display info about log in user
- id – display user and groupid
- man <any command> - displays information about the command