

# Manage files with Linux commands

In this scenario, you need to ensure that the */home/analyst* directory is properly organized.

You have to make a few changes to the */home/analyst* directory and the files it contains.

You also have to edit a file to record the changes or updates you make to the directory.

When you start, the */home/analyst* directory contains the following subdirectories and files:

Task 1. Create a new directory

Task 2. Remove a directory

Task 3. Move a file

Task 4. Remove a file

Task 5. Create a new file

Task 6. Edit a file

**First, you must create a dedicated subdirectory called *logs*, which will be used to store all future log files.**

1. Create a new subdirectory called *logs* in the */home/analyst* directory.

The command to complete this step:

```
1  mkdir logs
```

2. List the contents of the */home/analyst* directory to confirm that you've successfully created the new *logs* subdirectory.

The command to complete this step:

```
1  ls
```

The output should list the original three directories and the new *logs* subdirectory:

```
1 logs notes reports temp
```

## Task 2. Remove a directory

Next, you must remove the *temp* directory, as you'll no longer be placing items in it.

1. Remove the */home/analyst/temp* directory.

The command to complete this step:

```
1 rmdir temp
```

2. List the contents of the */home/analyst* directory to confirm that you have removed the *temp* subdirectory.

The command to complete this step:

```
1 ls
```

The *temp* directory should no longer be listed:

```
1 logs notes reports
```

## Task 3. Move a file

The *Q3patches.txt* file contains notes taken on third-quarter patches and is now in the correct reporting format.

You must move the *Q3patches.txt* file from the *notes* directory to the *reports* directory.

1. Navigate to the */home/analyst/notes* directory.

The command to complete this step:

```
1 cd /home/analyst/notes
```

The previous command used the absolute path, you could use the relative path as follows:

```
1 cd notes
```

2. Move the *Q3patches.txt* file from the */home/analyst/notes* directory to the */home/analyst/reports* directory.

The command to complete this step:

```
1 mv Q3patches.txt /home/analyst/reports/
```

3. List the contents of the */home/analyst/reports* directory to confirm that you have moved the file successfully.

The command to complete this step:

```
1 ls /home/analyst/reports
```

When you list the contents of the *reports* directory, it should show that three quarterly report files are now in the *reports* directory:

```
1  Q1patches.txt Q2patches.txt Q3patches.txt
```

## Task 4. Remove a file

Next, you must delete an unused file called *tempnotes.txt* from the */home/analyst/notes* directory.

1. Remove the *tempnotes.txt* file from the */home/analyst/notes* directory.

The command to complete this step:

```
1  rm tempnotes.txt
```

2. List the contents of the */home/analyst/notes* directory to confirm that you've removed the file successfully.

The command to complete this step:

```
1  ls
```

## Task 5. Create a new file

Now, you must create a file named *tasks.txt* in the */home/analyst/notes* directory that you'll use to document completed tasks.

1. Use the *touch* command to create an empty file called *tasks.txt* in the */home/analyst/notes* directory.

The command to complete this step:

```
1  touch tasks.txt
```

2. List the contents of the `/home/analyst/notes` directory to confirm that you have created a new file.

The command to complete this step:

```
1  ls
```

A file called `tasks.txt` should now exist in the notes directory:

```
1  tasks.txt
```

## Task 6. Edit a file

Finally, you must use the nano text editor to edit the `tasks.txt` file and add a note describing the tasks you've completed.

1. Using the nano text editor, open the `tasks.txt` file that is located in the `/home/analyst/notes` directory.

The command to complete this step:

```
1  nano tasks.txt
```

*Note: This action changes the shell from the normal Bash interface to the nano text editor interface.*

2. Copy and paste the following text into the text input area of the nano editor:

```
1  Completed tasks
2  1. Managed file structure in /home/analyst
```

3. Press **CTRL+X** to exit the nano text editor.

This triggers a prompt asking **Save modified buffer?**

4. Press **Y** to confirm that you want to save the new data to your file. (Answering "no" will **discard** changes.)

5. Press **ENTER** to confirm that **File Name to Write** is tasks.txt.

**Note:** The recommended sequence of commands for saving a file with the nano text editor is to use **CTRL+O** to tell nano to save the file and then use **CTRL+X** to exit immediately.

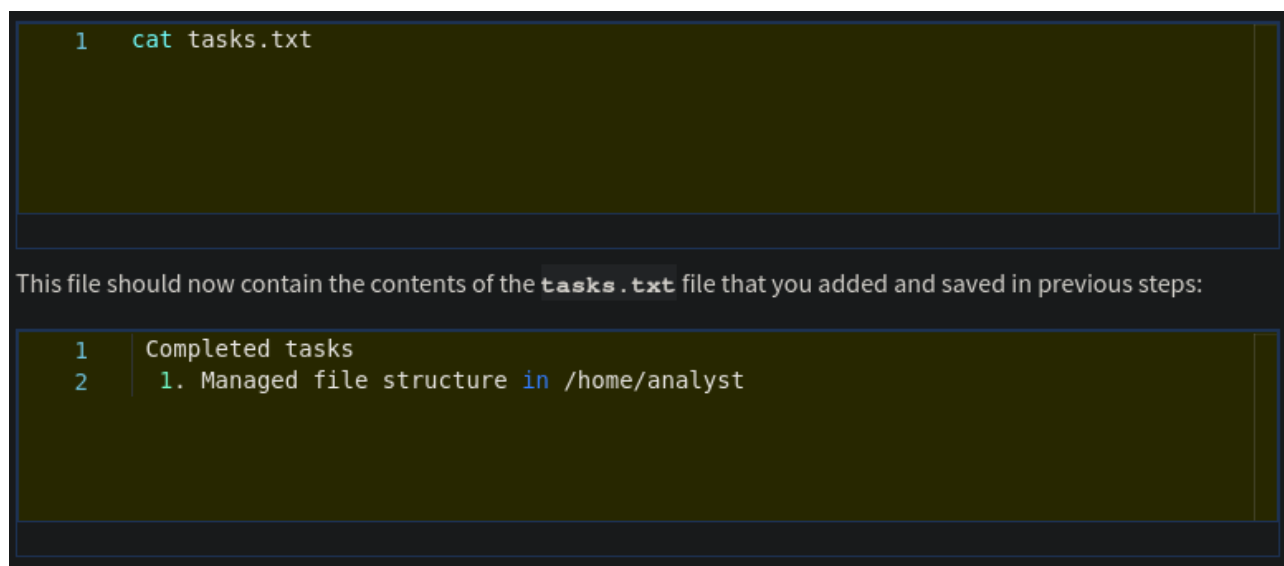
In this web-based lab environment, the **CTRL+O** command is intercepted by your web browser and is interpreted as a request to save the web page. The sequence used here is a commonly used alternative that achieves the same end result.

6. Use the *clear* command to clear the Bash shell window and remove any traces of the nano text input area.

The command to complete this step:

**Note:** Most Bash shells typically handle the screen cleanup after you exit nano. In this lab environment, nano sometimes leaves some text clutter around the edges of the screen that the *clear* command cleans up for you.

7. Display the contents of the *tasks.txt* file to confirm that it contains the updated task details.



```
1 cat tasks.txt
```

This file should now contain the contents of the `tasks.txt` file that you added and saved in previous steps:

```
1 Completed tasks
2 1. Managed file structure in /home/analyst
```

## Conclusion

You now have practical experience in using basic Linux Bash shell commands to

- create and remove directories,
- copy, move, and remove files, and
- edit files with the nano text editor.

You're well on your way to managing directories and files in a Linux environment!