**File Names**

* LINUX permits file names to use most characters, but avoid spaces, tabs and characters that have a special meaning to the shell, such as:

& ; ( ) | ? \ ' " ` [ ] { } < > $ - ! /

* Case Sensitivity: uppercase and lowercase are not the same! These are three different files:

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* Length: can be up to 256 characters
* Extensions: may be used to identify types of files

libc.a - archive, library file

program.c - C language source file

alpha2.f - Fortran source file

xwd2ps.o - Object/executable code

mygames.Z - Compressed file

* Hidden Files: have names that begin with a dot (.) For example:

.cshrc .login .mailrc .mwmrc

* Uniqueness: as children in a family, no two files with the same parent directory can have the same name. Files located in separate directories can have identical names.
* Reserved Filenames:

/ - the root directory (slash)

. - current directory (period)

.. - parent directory (double period)

~ - your home directory (tilde)