The pwd command **writes to standard output the full path name of your current directory (from the root directory)**. All directories are separated by a / (slash). The root directory is represented by the first /, and the last directory named is your current directory.

**Purpose**

Displays the path name of the working directory.

**Syntax**

**pwd** [ [**-L**](https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/aix/7.1?topic=p-pwd-command#pwd__pwd_flags_bigl) | [**-P**](https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/aix/7.1?topic=p-pwd-command#pwd__pwd_flags_bigp) ]

**Description**

The **pwd** command writes to standard output the full path name of your current directory (from the root directory). All directories are separated by a / (slash). The root directory is represented by the first /, and the last directory named is your current directory.

**Flags**

-L

Displays the value of the PWD environment variable if the PWD environment variable contains an absolute path name of the current directory that does not contain the file names **.** (dot) or **..** (dot-dot). Otherwise, the **-L** flag behaves the same as the **-P** flag.

-P

Displays the absolute path name of the current directory. The absolute path name displayed with the **-P** flag does not contain file names that, in the context of the path name, refer to files of type symbolic link.

**Exit Status**

This command returns the following exit values:

| **Item** | **Description** |
| --- | --- |
| **0** | Successful completion. |
| **>0** | An error occurred. |

## Examples

Entering:

pwd

displays the current directory as:

/home/thomas

**Files**

| **Item** | **Description** |
| --- | --- |
| **/usr/bin/pwd** | Contains the **pwd** command. |