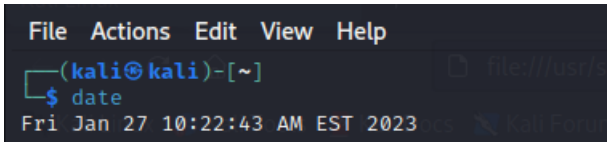
# Kali Linux Basic Commands

## 1. Date Command

In Kali Linux, the **'date'** command is used to display the **system date** and **time.** In order to display the date, we have to use the following command:

**Syntax:**

1. # date

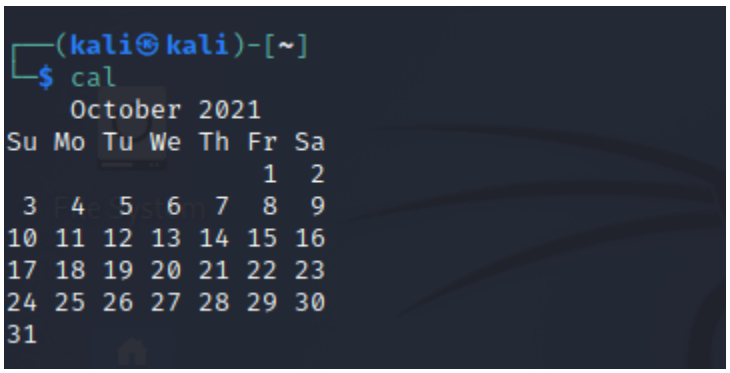



## 2. Cal Command

The cal command displays the current **month's formatted calendar** on our terminal screen. If we require a more advanced version of **cal,** we can install the **ncal package** on our Linux machine, which displays the calendar vertically and provides additional options.

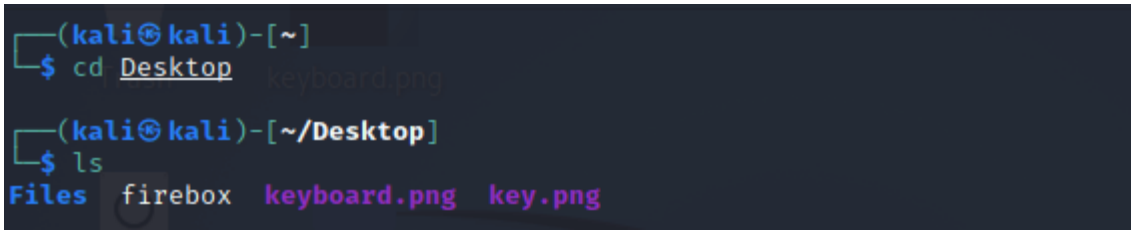
**Syntax**

1. # Cal



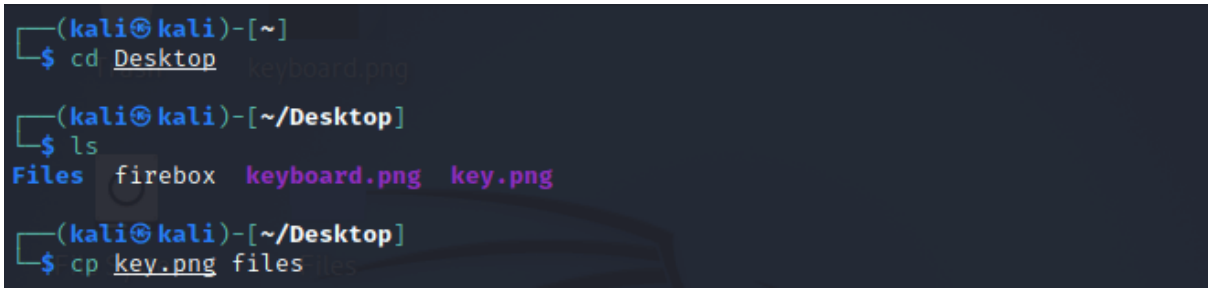

## 3. Cd Command

The **'cd'** command is also called **chdir** (Change Directory). We used this command to **change** or **switch** the current working directory.




## 4. cp Command

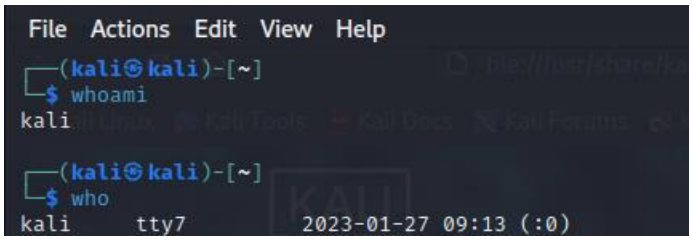
In Kali Linux, the **'cp'** command is used to **copy** files or a group of files or directories that create an exact image of a file on a disk with a different file name.




## 5. whoami Command

The **'whoami'** command is used to print the effective **user ID** whereas the **who** command prints information regarding users who are presently logged in.

The **"w"** command can also be used to view who is logged on and what they are doing.




## 6. Ls Command

One of the most useful commands in Kali Linux is the **'ls'** command. The **ls** command lists the directory contents of files and directories. With the help of the **ls** command, we can easily list out every hidden file of a directory with the **-a** attribute, and for more detailed output, we can use the **-l** attribute.

**Syntax**

1. # ls -al

```
┌──(kali㉿kali)-[~]
└─$ ls -al
total 300
drwx------ 18 kali kali  4096 Jan 27 10:31 .
drwxr-xr-x  3 root root  4096 Dec  5 08:43 ..
drwxr-xr-x  9 kali kali  4096 Jan 26 07:04 anonym8
-rw-r--r--  1 kali kali   220 Dec  5 08:43 .bash_logout
-rw-r--r--  1 kali kali  5551 Dec  5 08:43 .bashrc
-rw-r--r--  1 kali kali  3526 Dec  5 08:43 .bashrc.original
drwx------  9 kali kali  4096 Jan 26 23:26 .cache
drwxr-xr-x 14 kali kali  4096 Jan 27 03:42 .config
drwxr-xr-x  2 kali kali  4096 Jan 24 23:30 Desktop
-rw-r--r--  1 kali kali    35 Jan 25 00:54 .dmrc
-rw-------  1 kali kali  2452 Jan 27 03:42 dn.pcapng
-rw-------  1 kali kali 37572 Jan 27 03:36 dns.pcapng
drwxr-xr-x  2 kali kali  4096 Jan 24 23:30 Documents
drwxr-xr-x  2 kali kali  4096 Jan 24 23:30 Downloads
-rw-r--r--  1 kali kali 11759 Dec  5 08:43 .face
lrwxrwxrwx  1 kali kali     5 Dec  5 08:43 .face.icon → .face
drwx------  3 kali kali  4096 Jan 24 23:30 .gnupg
-rw-r--r--  1 kali kali  5467 Jan 26 06:48 hydra.restore
-rw-------  1 kali kali     0 Jan 24 23:30 .ICEauthority
drwxr-xr-x  3 kali kali  4096 Dec  5 08:43 .java
drwx------  3 kali kali  4096 Jan 24 23:30 .local
drwx------  4 kali kali  4096 Jan 26 23:25 .mozilla
drwxr-xr-x 10 kali kali  4096 Jan 25 04:03 .msf4
drwxr-xr-x  2 kali kali  4096 Jan 24 23:30 Music
drwxr-xr-x  2 kali kali  4096 Jan 25 04:16 Pictures
-rw-r--r--  1 kali kali   807 Dec  5 08:43 .profile
drwxr-xr-x  2 kali kali  4096 Jan 24 23:30 Public
-rw-r--r--  1 kali kali     0 Jan 25 01:20 .sudo_as_admin_successful
drwxr-xr-x  2 kali kali  4096 Jan 24 23:30 Templates
-rw-r--r--  1 kali kali 73802 Jan 25 04:15 trojan.exe
-rw-r-----  1 kali kali     4 Jan 27 09:13 .vboxclient-clipboard.pid
-rw-r-----  1 kali kali     4 Jan 27 09:13 .vboxclient-display-svga-x11.pid
-rw-r-----  1 kali kali     4 Jan 27 09:13 .vboxclient-draganddrop.pid
-rw-r-----  1 kali kali     4 Jan 27 09:13 .vboxclient-seamless.pid
drwxr-xr-x  2 kali kali  4096 Jan 24 23:30 Videos
-rw-------  1 kali kali    49 Jan 27 09:13 .Xauthority
-rw-------  1 kali kali  6920 Jan 27 10:03 .xsession-errors
-rw-------  1 kali kali 15926 Jan 27 04:25 .xsession-errors.old
-rw-------  1 kali kali  1657 Jan 27 10:31 .zsh_history
-rw-r--r--  1 kali kali 10877 Dec  5 08:43 .zshrc
```

## 7. Cat Command

The **'cat'** (concatenate) command is one of Kali Linux's most commonly used commands, permitting us to create single or many files, concatenate files and redirect, view contain of file output in terminal or files.

Usually, we use the cat command to display the content of a file.

# cat filename

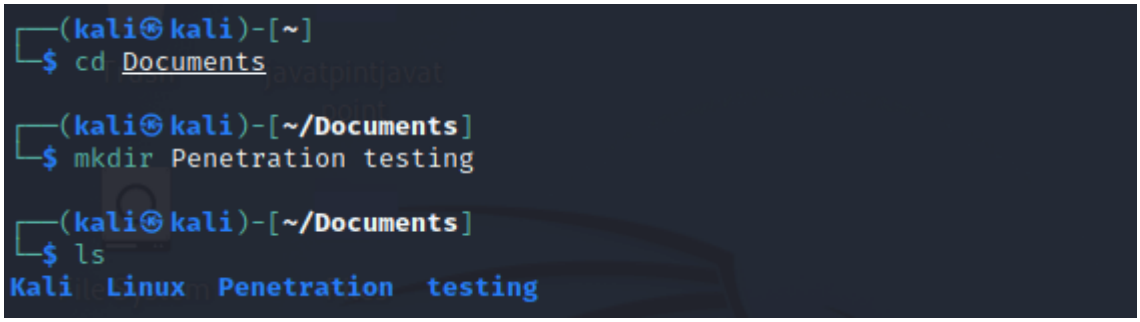
```
┌──(kali㉿kali)-[~]
└─$ echo "Welcome to JavaTpoint" > file.txt

┌──(kali㉿kali)-[~]
└─$ cat file.txt
Welcome to JavaTpoint
```

## 8. mkdir Command

The **'mkdir'** command is used to **create directories.** For example, if we wish to create a directory named **'Penetration testing'** under the **'Documents'** directory, then we have to open a terminal and enter the below command:

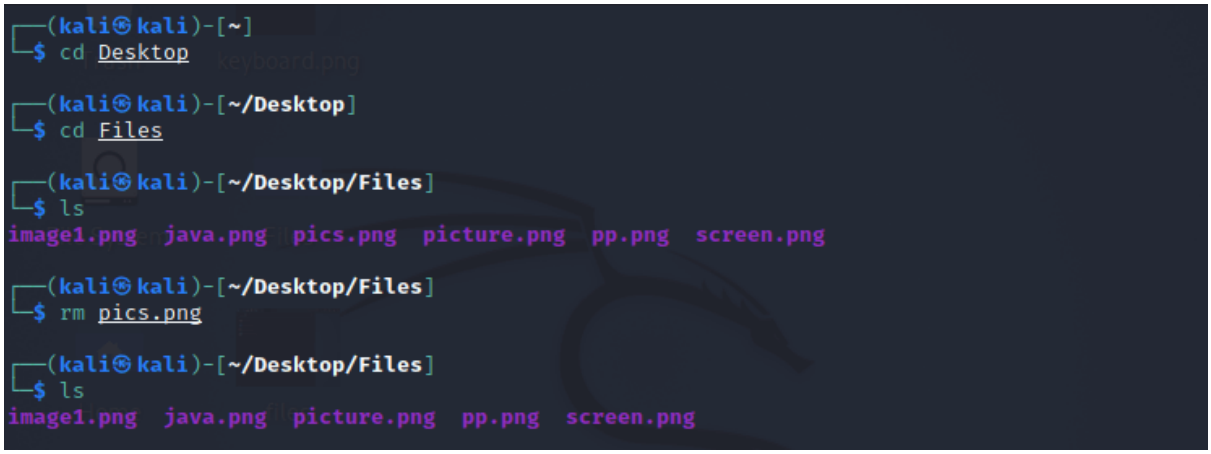
1. cd Documents

mkdir Penetration testing



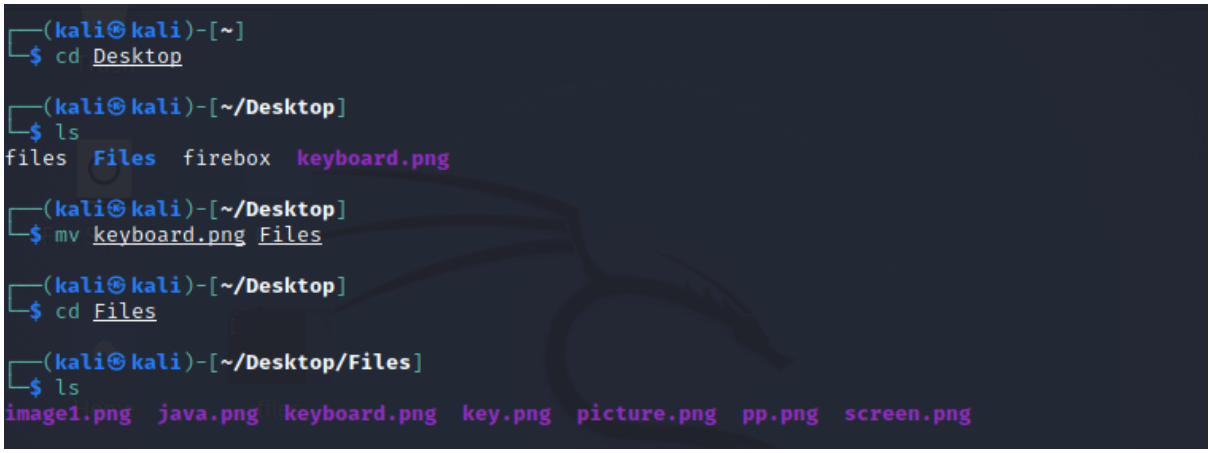

## 9. rm Command

In Kali Linux, the **'rm'** command is used to **delete files.** It can be used to delete directories when we use them recursively.




## 10. mv Command

With the help of the **'mv'** command, we can **move** or **renames** files and directories on our file system.




## 11. uname Command

The **'uname'** command displays the **current system's information.** We can view system information about our Linux environment with the uname command in Linux. With the **uname -a command,** we can learn more about our system, including **Kernel Name, Node Name, Kernel Release, Kernel Version, Hardware Platform, Processor,** and **Operating System.**

**Syntax**

1. # uname

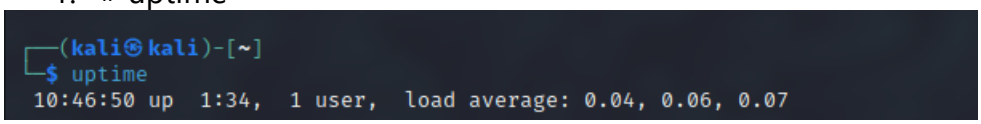

## 12. uptime Command

The **'uptime'** command displays the amount of time the system has been running. Uptime's basic usage is simple: simply **type** the name of the command and click **Enter.**

Use the **-p** command-line option if we merely want to know how long the system has been up for and in a more human-readable format.

**Syntax**

1. # uptime



## 13. users Command

The **'users'** command is used to display the **login names** of users logged in on the system.

**Syntax**

1. # users

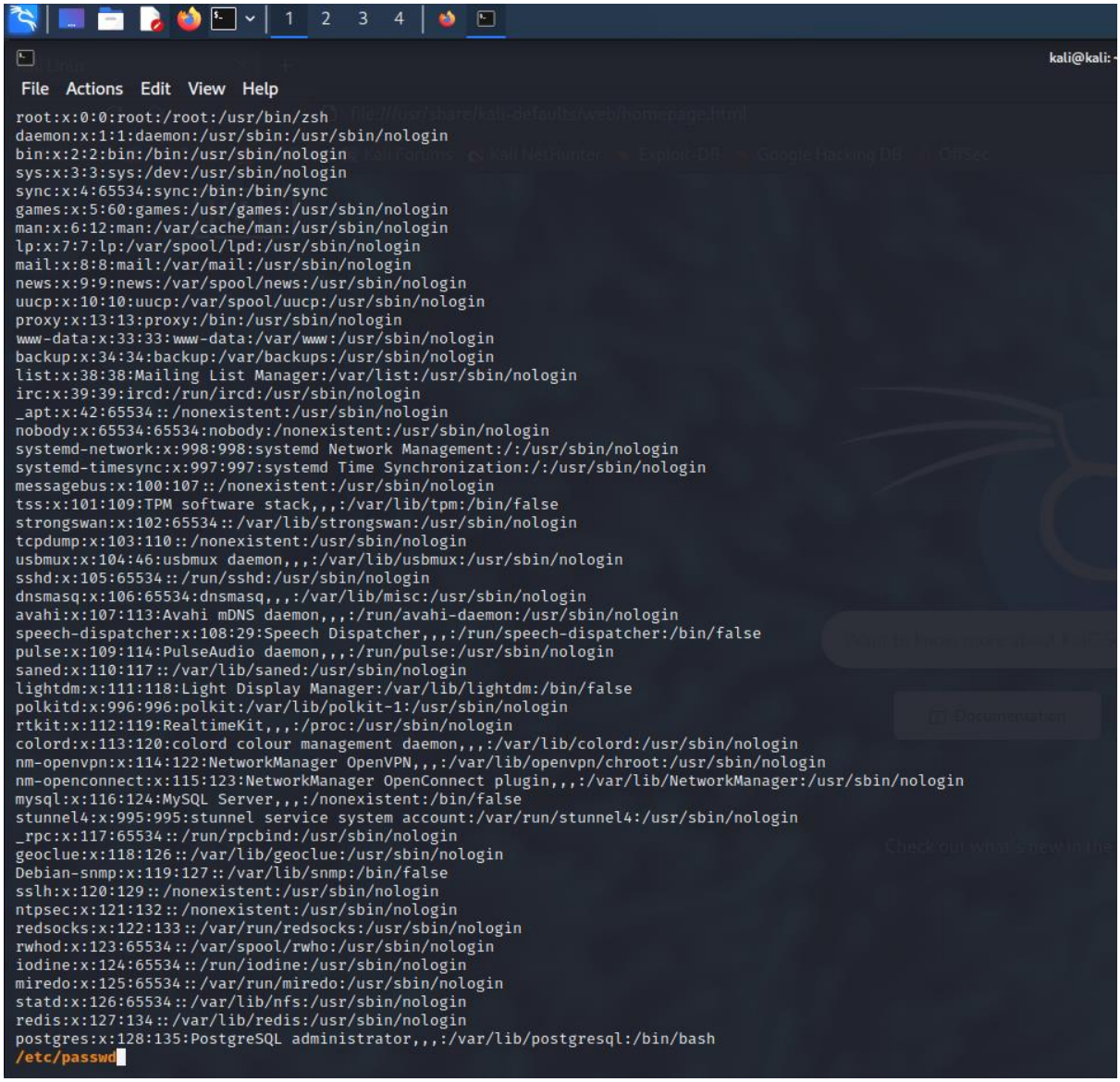

## 14. less Command

In Kali Linux, the **'less'** command is used to view files instead of opening the file. The less command is a more powerful variant of the **"more"** command which is used to show information one page at a time to the terminal.

We can view any text file with the help of the **"less"** command simply by typing the following command into a terminal window:

**Syntax:**

1. # less /etc/passwd



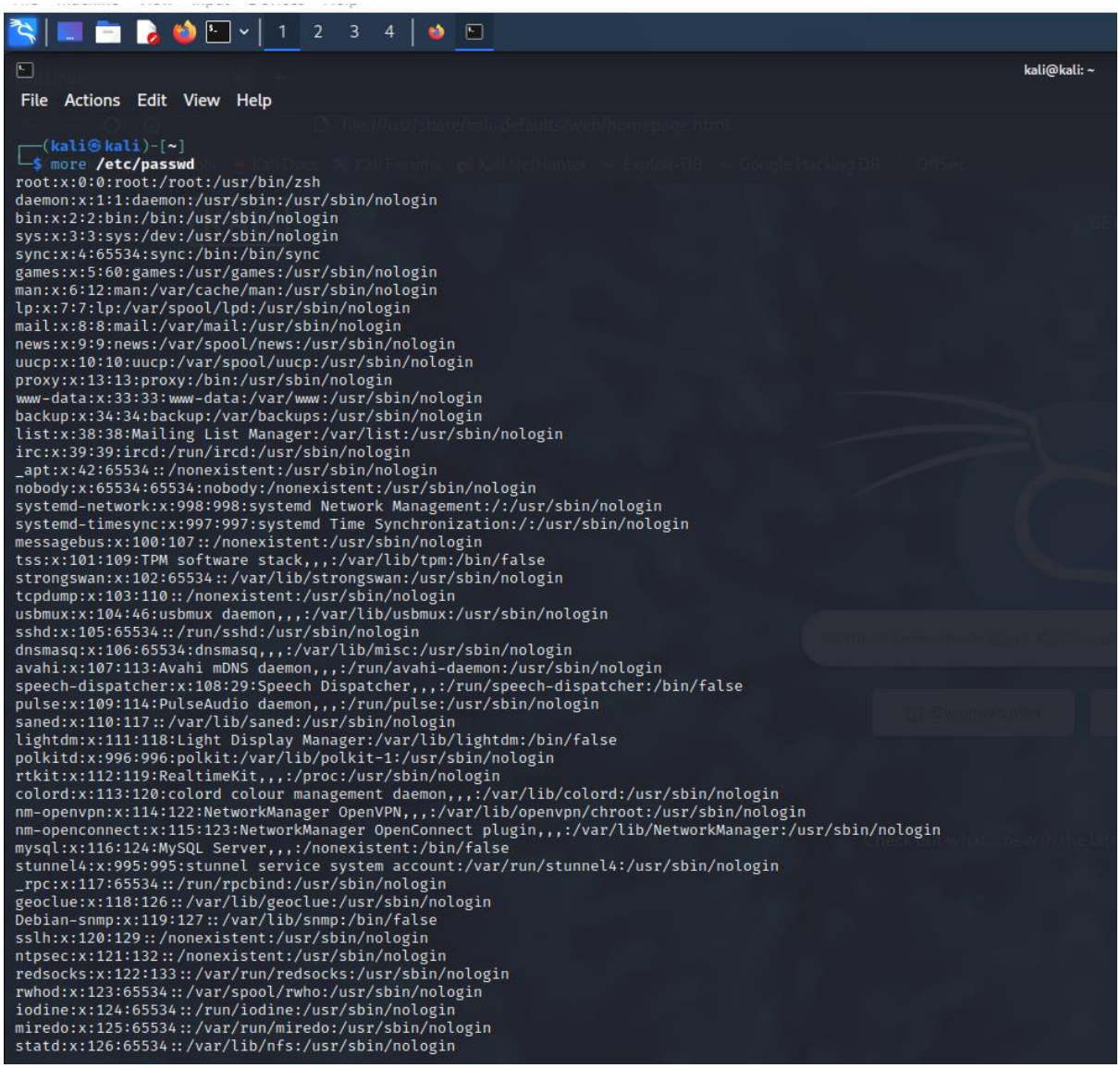

## 15. more Command

The **"more"** command permits us to show output in the terminal one page at a time. This is particularly beneficial when using a command that requires a lot of scrolling, such as the '**ls**' command or the **'du'** commands.

The **'more'** command works with any applications that output to the screen. A good way to test this is to type the following command into a terminal window:

**Syntax:**

1. # moreetc/passwd

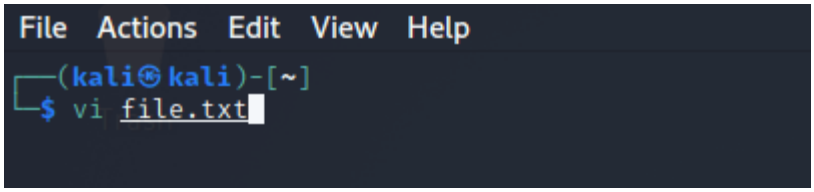


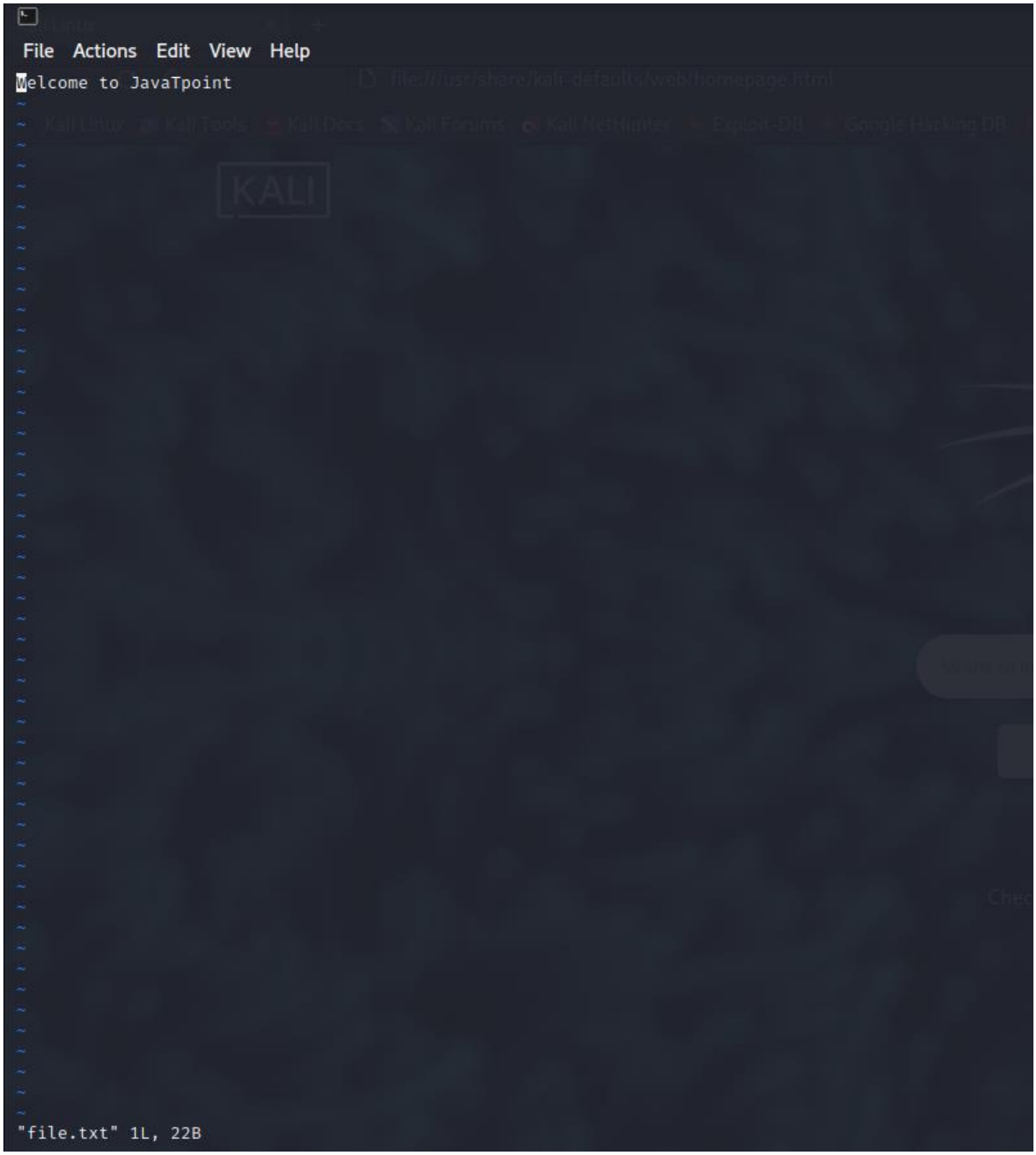

## 16. vi Command

The **'vi'** editor is a screen editor that comes with practically every **UNIX** system. The **command mode** and the **insert mode** are the two most common nodes in vi.

In order to start entering text in an empty file, we have to first switch from the command mode to the insert mode. To accomplish this, start typing the letter i. When we start typing, anything then the type will be entered into the file.

Type some short lines, then press Return at the end of each. **Vi** does not use word wrap like other word processors. It will break a line at the screen' edge. If we make a mistake, we can undo it by pressing the **Backspace** key. If the Backspace key on our computer is not working, then try the **ctrl + h** key combination.



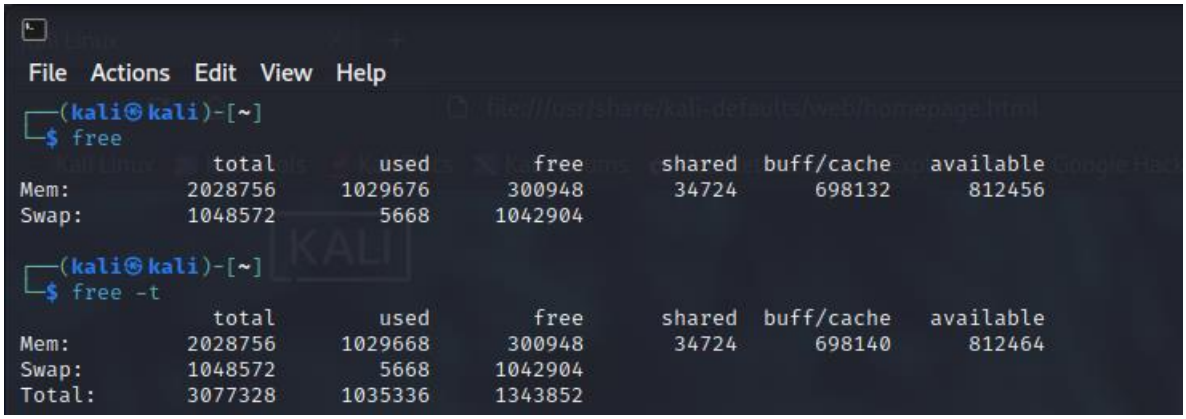

## 17. free Command

In Kali Linux, the **'free'** command provides us the useful information about the **amount of RAM** available on a Linux machine. It also displays the entire amount of **physical memory** used and available space, as well as **swap memory** with **kernel buffers.**

**Syntax:**

1. # free

If we use the **free** command with the **-t** option, it would list the total line at the end.




## 18. sort Command

Using the **'sort'** command, we can sort the content of the text file, line by line. Sort is a standard command-line program which prints the lines of its input or concentration of all files listed in its argument list in sorted order.

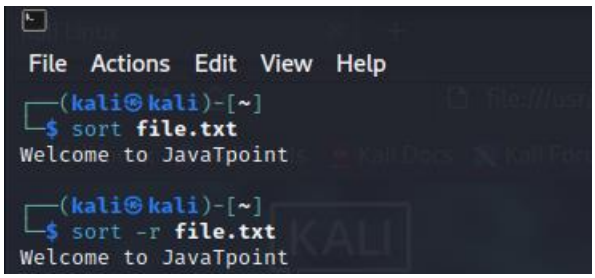
**Syntax:**

1. # sort file name

We can reverse the order of any file's contents by using the **-r** sort.

**Syntax**

1. # sort -r



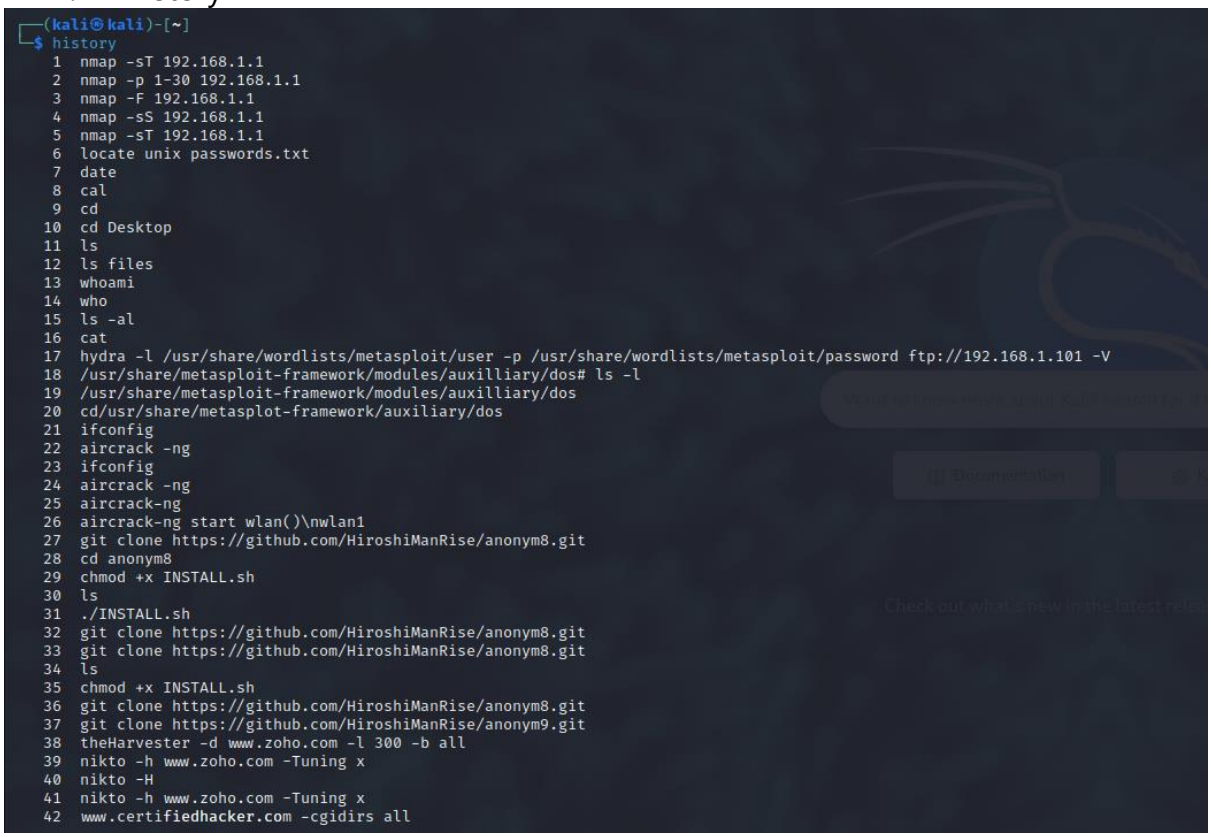

## 19. history Command

The **'history'** command is one of Kali Linux's most commonly used commands. The history command in the bash shell saves a history of commands entered that can be used to repeat commands.

We can run the history command by itself, and it will just print the **current user's bash history** on the screen, as shown below:

**Syntax:**

1. # history




## 20. Pwd Command

In Kali Linux, the **'Pwd'** command is used to **print working directory.** It gives us information about the directory we are now in. This is especially useful if we need to access the directory while in the middle of a complicated process.