

An A-Z Index of the **Linux** command line: **bash + utilities**.

<code>&</code>	Start a new process in the background
<code>alias</code>	Create an alias •
<code>apropos</code>	Search Help manual pages (man -k)
<code>apt-get</code>	Search for and install software packages (Debian/Ubuntu)
<code>aptitude</code>	Search for and install software packages (Debian/Ubuntu)
<code>aspell</code>	Spell Checker
<code>awk</code>	Find and Replace text, database sort/validate/index
b	
<code>basename</code>	Strip directory and suffix from filenames
<code>base32</code>	Base32 encode/decode data and print to standard output
<code>base64</code>	Base64 encode/decode data and print to standard output
<code>bash</code>	GNU Bourne-Again SHell
<code>bc</code>	Arbitrary precision calculator language
<code>bg</code>	Send to background
<code>bind</code>	Set or display readline key and function bindings •
<code>break</code>	Exit from a loop •
<code>builtin</code>	Run a shell builtin
<code>bzip2</code>	Compress or decompress named file(s)
c	
<code>cal</code>	Display a calendar
<code>case</code>	Conditionally perform a command
<code>cat</code>	Concatenate and print (display) the content of files
<code>cd</code>	Change Directory
<code>cfdisk</code>	Partition table manipulator for Linux
<code>chattr</code>	Change file attributes on a Linux file system
<code>chgrp</code>	Change group ownership
<code>chmod</code>	Change access permissions
<code>chown</code>	Change file owner and group
<code>chpasswd</code>	Update passwords in batch mode
<code>chroot</code>	Run a command with a different root directory
<code>chkconfig</code>	System services (runlevel)
<code>cksum</code>	Print CRC checksum and byte counts
<code>clear</code>	Clear terminal screen
<code>cmp</code>	Compare two files
<code>comm</code>	Compare two sorted files line by line
<code>command</code>	Run a command - ignoring shell functions •
<code>continue</code>	Resume the next iteration of a loop •
<code>cp</code>	Copy one or more files to another location
<code>cpio</code>	Copy files to and from archives
<code>cron</code>	Daemon to execute scheduled commands
<code>crontab</code>	Schedule a command to run at a later time
<code>csplit</code>	Split a file into context-determined pieces
<code>curl</code>	Transfer data from or to a server
<code>cut</code>	Divide a file into several parts
d	
<code>date</code>	Display or change the date & time
<code>dc</code>	Desk Calculator
<code>dd</code>	Data Duplicator - convert and copy a file, write disk headers, b
<code>ddrescue</code>	Data recovery tool
<code>declare</code>	Declare variables and give them attributes •
<code>df</code>	Display free disk space
<code>diff</code>	Display the differences between two files
<code>diff3</code>	Show differences among three files
<code>dig</code>	DNS lookup
<code>dir</code>	Briefly list directory contents
<code>dircolors</code>	Colour setup for 'ls'
<code>dirname</code>	Convert a full pathname to just a path

<code>dirs</code>	Display list of remembered directories
<code>dmesg</code>	Print kernel & driver messages
<code>du</code>	Estimate file space usage
e	
<code>echo</code>	Display message on screen •
<code>egrep</code>	Search file(s) for lines that match an extended expression
<code>eject</code>	Eject removable media
<code>enable</code>	Enable and disable builtin shell commands •
<code>env</code>	Environment variables
<code>ethtool</code>	Ethernet card settings
<code>eval</code>	Evaluate several commands/arguments
<code>exec</code>	Execute a command
<code>exit</code>	Exit the shell
<code>expect</code>	Automate arbitrary applications accessed over a terminal
<code>expand</code>	Convert tabs to spaces
<code>export</code>	Set an environment variable
<code>expr</code>	Evaluate expressions
f	
<code>false</code>	Do nothing, unsuccessfully
<code>fdformat</code>	Low-level format a floppy disk
<code>fdisk</code>	Partition table manipulator for Linux
<code>fg</code>	Send job to foreground
<code>fgrep</code>	Search file(s) for lines that match a fixed string
<code>file</code>	Determine file type
<code>find</code>	Search for files that meet a desired criteria
<code>fmt</code>	Reformat paragraph text
<code>fold</code>	Wrap text to fit a specified width.
<code>for</code>	Expand <i>words</i> , and execute <i>commands</i>
<code>format</code>	Format disks or tapes
<code>free</code>	Display memory usage
<code>fsck</code>	File system consistency check and repair
<code>ftp</code>	File Transfer Protocol
<code>function</code>	Define Function Macros
<code>fuser</code>	Identify/kill the process that is accessing a file
g	
<code>gawk</code>	Find and Replace text within file(s)
<code>getopts</code>	Parse positional parameters
<code>grep</code>	Search file(s) for lines that match a given pattern
<code>groupadd</code>	Add a user security group
<code>groupdel</code>	Delete a group
<code>groupmod</code>	Modify a group
<code>groups</code>	Print group names a user is in
<code>gzip</code>	Compress or decompress named file(s)
h	
<code>hash</code>	Remember the full pathname of a name argument
<code>head</code>	Output the first part of file(s)
<code>help</code>	Display help for a built-in command •
<code>history</code>	Command History
<code>hostname</code>	Print or set system name
<code>htop</code>	Interactive process viewer
i	
<code>iconv</code>	Convert the character set of a file
<code>id</code>	Print user and group id's
<code>if</code>	Conditionally perform a command
<code>ifconfig</code>	Configure a network interface
<code>ifdown</code>	Stop a network interface
<code>ifup</code>	Start a network interface up
<code>import</code>	Capture an X server screen and save the image to file
<code>install</code>	Copy files and set attributes

iostat	Report CPU and i/o statistics
ip	Routing, devices and tunnels
j	
jobs	List active jobs •
join	Join lines on a common field
k	
kill	Kill a process by specifying its PID
killall	Kill processes by name
l	
less	Display output one screen at a time
let	Perform arithmetic on shell variables •
link	Create a link to a file
ln	Create a symbolic link to a file
local	Create a function variable •
locate	Find files
logname	Print current login name
logout	Exit a login shell •
look	Display lines beginning with a given string
lpc	Line printer control program
lpr	Off line print
lprint	Print a file
lprintd	Delete a print job
lprintq	List the print queue
lprm	Remove jobs from the print queue
lsattr	List file attributes on a Linux second extended file system
lsblk	List block devices
ls	List information about file(s)
lsof	List open files
lspci	List all PCI devices
m	
make	Recompile a group of programs
man	Help manual
mapfile	Read lines from standard input into an indexed array variable
mkdir	Create new folder(s)
mkfifo	Make FIFOs (named pipes)
mkfile	Make a file
mkisofs	Create an hybrid ISO9660/JOLIET/HFS filesystem
mknod	Make block or character special files
mktemp	Make a temporary file
more	Display output one screen at a time
most	Browse or page through a text file
mount	Mount a file system
mttools	Manipulate MS-DOS files
mtr	Network diagnostics (traceroute/ping)
mv	Move or rename files or directories
mmv	Mass Move and rename (files)
n	
nc	Netcat, read and write data across networks
netstat	Networking connections/stats
nft	nftables for packet filtering and classification
nice	Set the priority of a command or job
nl	Number lines and write files
nohup	Run a command immune to hangups
notify-send	Send desktop notifications
nslookup	Query Internet name servers interactively
o	
open	Open a file in its default application
op	Operator access
p	

passwd	Modify a user password
paste	Merge lines of files
pathchk	Check file name portability
Perf	Performance analysis tools for Linux
ping	Test a network connection
pgrep	List processes by name
pkill	Kill processes by name
popd	Restore the previous value of the current directory
pr	Prepare files for printing
printcap	Printer capability database
printenv	Print environment variables
printf	Format and print data •
ps	Process status
pushd	Save and then change the current directory
pv	Monitor the progress of data through a pipe
pwd	Print Working Directory

q

quota	Display disk usage and limits
quotacheck	Scan a file system for disk usage

r

ram	ram disk device
rar	Archive files with compression
rcp	Copy files between two machines
read	Read a line from standard input •
readarray	Read from stdin into an array variable •
readonly	Mark variables/functions as readonly
reboot	Reboot the system
rename	Rename files
renice	Alter priority of running processes
remsync	Synchronize remote files via email
return	Exit a shell function
rev	Reverse lines of a file
rm	Remove files
rmdir	Remove folder(s)
rsync	Remote file copy (Synchronize file trees)

s

screen	Multiplex terminal, run remote shells via ssh
scp	Secure copy (remote file copy)
sdiff	Merge two files interactively
sed	Stream Editor
select	Accept keyboard input
seq	Print numeric sequences
set	Manipulate shell variables and functions
sftp	Secure File Transfer Program
shift	Shift positional parameters
shopt	Shell Options
shutdown	Shutdown or restart linux
sleep	Delay for a specified time
slocate	Find files
sort	Sort text files
source	Run commands from a file '.'
split	Split a file into fixed-size pieces
ss	Socket Statistics
ssh	Secure Shell client (remote login program)
stat	Display file or file system status
strace	Trace system calls and signals
su	Substitute user identity
sudo	Execute a command as another user
sum	Print a checksum for a file

suspend	Suspend execution of this shell •
sync	Synchronize data on disk with memory
t	
tail	Output the last part of file
tar	Store, list or extract files in an archive
tee	Redirect output to multiple files
test	Evaluate a conditional expression
time	Measure Program running time
timeout	Run a command with a time limit
times	User and system times
touch	Change file timestamps
top	List processes running on the system
tr	Set terminal-dependent capabilities, color, position
traceroute	Trace Route to Host
trap	Execute a command when the shell receives a signal •
tr	Translate, squeeze, and/or delete characters
true	Do nothing, successfully
tsort	Topological sort
tty	Print filename of terminal on stdin
type	Describe a command •
u	
ulimit	Limit user resources •
umask	Users file creation mask
umount	Unmount a device
unalias	Remove an alias •
uname	Print system information
unexpand	Convert spaces to tabs
uniq	Uniquify files
units	Convert units from one scale to another
unrar	Extract files from a rar archive
unset	Remove variable or function names
unshar	Unpack shell archive scripts
until	Execute commands (until error)
uptime	Show uptime
useradd	Create new user account
userdel	Delete a user account
usermod	Modify user account
users	List users currently logged in
uencode	Encode a binary file
udecode	Decode a file created by uencode
v	
v	Verbosely list directory contents ('ls -l -b')
vdir	Verbosely list directory contents ('ls -l -b')
vi	Text Editor
vmstat	Report virtual memory statistics
w	
w	Show who is logged on and what they are doing
wait	Wait for a process to complete •
watch	Execute/display a program periodically
wc	Print byte, word, and line counts
whereis	Search the user's \$path, man pages and source files for a progra
which	Search the user's \$path for a program file
while	Execute commands
who	Print all usernames currently logged in
whoami	Print the current user id and name ('id -un')
wget	Retrieve web pages or files via HTTP, HTTPS or FTP
write	Send a message to another user
x	
xargs	Execute utility, passing constructed argument list(s)

<code>xdg-open</code>	Open a file or URL in the user's preferred application.
<code>xz</code>	Compress or decompress .xz and .lzma files
<code>yes</code>	Print a string until interrupted
<code>zip</code>	Package and compress (archive) files.
<code>.</code>	Run a command script in the current shell
<code>!!</code>	Run the last command again
<code>###</code>	Comment / Remark

Commands marked • are bash *built-ins*

Many commands particularly the Core Utils are also available under alternate *shells* (C shell, Korn shell etc).