Misc. Commands' Cheatsheet

Here's a concise cheatsheet for some miscellaneous commands used in Linux.

Command	Definition	Syntax	Example
bc	`bc` is an arbitrary-precision language for performing math calculations.	`bc [ -hlwsqv ]` `[long-options]` `[file]`	To assign the variable `var` a value of **5** and display in on the console: `echo` `"var=5;var"` | `bc`
chdir (change directory)	`chdir` is the system command for changing the current working directory.	`chdir` `direectory_name e`	To change directory to "/home/etc/ww" : `chdir` `/home/etc/ww`
df (disk free)	It reports the amount of space used and available on currently mounted filesystems.	`df [option(s)]` `[device(s)]`	To get information only for the root directory: `df /`
du (disk usage)	It shows the	`du [options]`	This will show

	sizes of directories and files.	`[directories and/or files]`	the sizes of all directories that are in *dir2* that resides in *dir1*: du dir1/dir2
file	This command classifies filesystem objects.	`file [option(s)] object_name(s)`	Information about a file named "file1.txt" can be obtained by: `file file1.txt`
free	It provides information about unused and used memory and swap space.	`free [options]`	To show all of the data in megabytes: `free -m`
gzip	It is used to compress or decompress files.	`gzip [options] [suffix] [filename]`	To decompress a file "file.gz": `gzip -d file.gz`
halt	This command instructs the hardware to stop all CPU functions.	`halt [option]`	`sudo halt`
hostname	Shows or sets a computer's host name and domain name.	`hostname [options] [new_host_name ]`	To change the hostname to "host2": `hostname host2`
kdesu	It opens KDE	`kdesu [-u`	To allow

	su, the graphical front end for the su command.	`username]`
		
		`[options]`
		`command`
			Nautilus (the official file manager for the GNOME desktop) to be run as root during an ordinary user session: `kdesu -c nautilus`

killall	It terminates all processes associated with programs whose names are provided to it as arguments.	`killall [options] program_name(s )`	To abruptly terminate nautilus (which is the official file manager for the GNOME desktop): `killall nautilus`
less	`less` is the more powerful version of `more`. It allows backward movement in the file as well as forward movement. Also, `less` does not have to read the entire input file before starting, so with large input files it	`less <file name>`	`less /var/log/file`

	starts up faster than text editors like *vi*.		
mkfs (make filesystem)	It creates a filesystem on a disk or on a partition thereof.	`mkfs [ -V ] [ -t fstype ] [ fs-options ] filesys [ blocks ]`	This would create an ext2 filesystem on a formatted floppy disk that has been inserted into the first floppy drive: `mkfs /dev/fd0`
more	`more` shows information one page at a time.	`more [filename]`	To view the directory listing of a file, one page at a time: `more file.txt`
mv	It renames and moves files and directories.	`mv [options] argument(s)`	To rename "file1.txt" to "file2.txt": mv file1.txt file2.txt
pstree	It displays the processes on the system in the form of a tree diagram.	`pstree [options] [pid or username]`	To show only those branches that have been initiated by a user with a username *runner*: `pstree runner`
reboot	It restarts a	`reboot`	`reboot`

	computer without having to turn the power off and back on.	`[option]`	
rsync	It is a fast copying too.	`rsync [options] src [dest]`	`rsync -v /var/lib/rpm/file /root/temp/file`
runlevel	It reports the current and previous runlevels.	`runlevel [utmp]`	It is usually used without any options: `runlevel`
sed (stream editor)	It allows you to filter and transform text.	`sed options [script] [Iimputfile]`	To replace all instances of "cat" with "dog" in 'file.txt' `sed 's/cat/dog/g' file.txt`
shred	It destroys files.	`shred [option(s)] file(s)_or_devices(s)`	To securely destroy "file1.txt" and "file2.txt": `shred file1.txt file2.txt`
shutdown	This command allows you to shutdown a Windows XP,	`shutdown [option]… TIME [MESSAGE]`	`sudo shutdown 5` ; it will shut down system after 5 minutes.

	Vista, 7, 8, or 10 computer from the command line, as well as perform additional functions that are not available through Windows.		
spell	This command checks spellings.	`spell` `[options]` `[file_name(s)]`	To spell-chek "file.txt" : `spell` `file.txt`
strings	It returns each string of printable characters in files.	`strings` `[options]` `file_name(s)`	To display all strings in file1.txt that consist of at least 3 characters: `strings -n 3` `file1`
su (substitute user)	It changes a login session's owner without the owner having to first log out of that session.	`su [options]` `[commands] [-]` `[username]`	To change the user of current login session to *anna*: `su anna`
tar	This command is used to archive files in tar format. We	`tar` `[option(s)]` `[archive]` `[file_name(s)]`	`tar -cf` `my_files.tar` `file_1 file_2` `file_3`

	can also used this command to convert, maintain, and extract tar files.		
tr	It translates or deletes characters.	`tr [options] set1 [set2]`	To replace every instance of text-typed a with b: `tr a b`
unalias	It removes entries from the current user's list of aliases.	`unalias [-a] [alias_name(s)]`	If a user had an alias named p for the `pwd` (i.e., present working directory) command, such alias could be removed with: `unalias p`
uptime	It shows the current time, how long the system has been running since it was booted up, how many user sessions are currently open and the load averages.	`uptime [option]`	`uptime`
vim	It is used for editing any	`vim [options] [filelist]`	To edit a single file: `vim`

	kind of text and is especially suited for editing computer programs.		`file.txt`
w	`w` shows who is logged into the system and what they are doing.	`w [options] [username1, username2, . . .]`	`w` ; running this command with no arguments shows the list of users along with their ongoing processes.
whatis	It gives very brief descriptions of command line programs and other topics related to Linux and other Unix-like operating systems.	`whatis keyword(s)`	`whatis sudo`
wc (word count)	This command counts the number of lines, words and characters that are contained in text.	`wc [options] [file_name(s)]`	`wc file1 file2`

| whereis | It locates the program, source code, and manual page for a command. | `whereis program_name(s)` | `whereis ls` |