

# Top 150 Kali Linux Commands Every Cybersecurity Enthusiast Must Know!

## 1. Basic Linux Commands

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1. ls - List directory contents
2. cd - Change directory
3. pwd - Print working directory
4. mkdir - Create a new directory
5. rmdir - Remove empty directories
6. rm - Remove files or directories
7. cp - Copy files and directories
8. mv - Move or rename files
9. touch - Create an empty file
10. find - Search for files
11. locate - Find files by name
12. updatedb - Update locate database
13. cat - View file contents
14. less - View file contents page by page
15. nano - Open a text editor

16. vi - Open the Vi text editor
17. echo - Display text in terminal
18. history - Show command history
19. clear - Clear terminal screen
20. whoami - Show the current user
21. id - Show user ID and group ID
22. chmod - Change file permissions
23. chown - Change file owner
24. stat - Show file metadata
25. df - Show disk space usage
26. du - Show directory size
27. mount - Mount a file system
28. umount - Unmount a file system
29. tar - Compress/extract .tar files
30. zip - Compress files into .zip
31. unzip - Extract .zip files
32. wget - Download files from the web
33. curl - Fetch data from URLs
34. ping - Test network connectivity
35. traceroute - Trace network hops
36. arp - Show ARP table
37. ifconfig - Show network interface details (deprecated)
38. ip a - Show IP addresses

39. ip route - Show routing table
40. netstat - Show network connections (deprecated)
41. ss - Show active connections
42. nslookup - Query DNS
43. dig - Perform advanced DNS queries
44. whois - Look up domain details
45. uptime - Show system uptime
46. free - Show memory usage
47. top - Show running processes
48. htop - Interactive process viewer
49. kill - Terminate a process
50. pkill - Kill processes by name
51. ps - Show running processes
52. bg - Resume a job in the background
53. fg - Resume a job in the foreground
54. nohup - Run a command immune to hangups
55. alias - Create a shortcut for a command
56. unalias - Remove an alias
57. uname - Show system information
58. lsb\_release -a - Show OS details
59. shutdown - Shutdown the system
60. reboot - Restart the system

## 2. User & Group Management

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- 61. adduser - Add a new user
- 62. userdel - Delete a user
- 63. passwd - Change user password
- 64. groupadd - Create a new group
- 65. groupdel - Delete a group
- 66. usermod - Modify a user
- 67. groups - Show user's groups
- 68. su - Switch user
- 69. sudo - Run a command as root
- 70. visudo - Edit sudoers file
- 71. chage - Manage password expiry
- 72. last - Show login history
- 73. w - Show logged-in users
- 74. who - Show who is logged in
- 75. finger - Show user information

## 3. File Permissions & Ownership

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- 76. ls -l - Show file permissions
- 77. chmod 777 file - Give full permissions
- 78. chmod 755 file - Give execute permissions
- 79. chown user:group file - Change ownership

80. umask - Set default permissions

81. getfacl - Get ACL details

82. setfacl - Modify ACL settings

## 4. Package Management (APT)

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83. apt update - Refresh repositories

84. apt upgrade - Upgrade installed packages

85. apt install package - Install a package

86. apt remove package - Remove a package

87. apt autoremove - Remove unused packages

88. apt list --installed - Show installed packages

89. dpkg -i package.deb - Install a .deb package

90. dpkg -r package - Remove a .deb package

91. dpkg -l - List installed .deb packages

## 5. Network Scanning & Security

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92. nmap - Scan networks and hosts

93. nmap -sP 192.168.1.0/24 - Ping sweep

94. nmap -sV - Service version detection

95. nmap -A - Aggressive scan

96. nmap -O - Detect OS

- 97. tcpdump - Capture network packets
- 98. wireshark - GUI network analyzer
- 99. tshark - CLI packet capture
- 100. netcat - Listen on a port
- 101. nc -zv target 80 - Check open ports
- 102. aircrack-ng - Crack Wi-Fi passwords
- 103. airmmon-ng - Enable monitor mode
- 104. airoscript-ng - Automate Wi-Fi attacks
- 105. macchanger - Change MAC address

## 6. Password Cracking

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- 106. hydra - Brute force login
- 107. john - John the Ripper password cracker
- 108. hashcat - Advanced password recovery
- 109. cupp - Custom wordlist generator
- 110. crunch - Wordlist generator

## 7. Web Penetration Testing

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- 111. sqlmap - Automated SQL injection
- 112. wpscan - WordPress security scanner

- 113. gobuster - Directory brute-forcing
- 114. dirb - Directory search
- 115. sublist3r - Subdomain enumeration
- 116. nikto - Web vulnerability scanner
- 117. burpsuite - Web security tool

## 8. Exploitation & Payloads

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- 118. metasploit - Penetration testing framework
- 119. msfconsole - Open Metasploit
- 120. msfvenom - Create payloads
- 121. exploitable - Search exploits
- 122. armitage - GUI for Metasploit

## 9. Post Exploitation

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- 123. mimikatz - Extract Windows credentials
- 124. empire - PowerShell post-exploitation
- 125. beef - Browser Exploitation Framework
- 126. responder - Network credential harvesting

## 10. Forensics & Reverse Engineering

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- 127. volatility - Memory forensics
- 128. binwalk - Firmware analysis
- 129. foremost - File recovery
- 130. autopsy - Digital forensic analysis
- 131. strings - Extract strings from binaries
- 132. ghidra - Reverse engineering tool
- 133. gdb - GNU Debugger

## 11. Wireless Attacks

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- 134. reaver - WPS attack tool
- 135. fern-wifi-cracker - GUI for Wi-Fi hacking
- 136. kismet - Wireless network detector

## 12. Miscellaneous

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- 137. ssh - Connect to a remote system



138. scp - Securely copy files

139. rsync - Sync directories

140. cron - Schedule tasks

141. at - Schedule one-time tasks

142. strace - Trace system calls

143. lsof - List open files

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