



# Terminal Interface

## What is Unix ?

Unix was originally developed as a multitasking system for minicomputers and mainframes in the mid-1970s. It has since grown to become one of the most widely used operating systems anywhere, despite its sometimes confusing interface and lack of central standardization.

# History of Unix

The history of Unix begins at AT&T Bell Labs in the late 1960s with a small team of programmers looking to write a multi-tasking, multi-user operating system for the PDP-7

The PDP-7 was a minicomputer produced by Digital Equipment Corporation (With a cost of US\$72,000)



## What Is the terminal?

The terminal is the ultimate seat of power on your computer. Using the terminal, you can perform amazing feats of wizardry and speed, taming your computer and getting it to do precisely what you want. Unfortunately, the price of this power is complexity: nobody ever said that ruling your computer would be easy.

## Mac OS X/ Unix

The Mac command line is a program called Terminal. It lives in the **/Applications/Utilities/** folder. To find it, go to your Applications folder. Near the bottom, there is a folder called Utilities. Go inside, and one of the applications listed is called Terminal. Double-click that application to open it.

# Windows

Unfortunately, you will have to install your own command line program. Windows comes with a command line called CMD, but it is non-standard and more difficult to use. Therefore, Windows user will be downloading git bash.

# Git Bash

Git Bash is an application for Microsoft Windows environments which provides an emulation layer for a Git command line experience

## How to open the command line

**Mac users** hold command and space at the same time  
Then enter the word **terminal** and click enter

**Windows users** Click on the Windows search box located next to the Start button.  
Then enter the word **gitbash**



# What's a command

An instruction for the terminal to be executed.

## Change directory

cd (Change Directory) command is one of the most important and most widely used command

**Command: cd**

**Example:**

**cd Desktop**

# Home Directory

The directory in which you find yourself when you first login is called your home directory. You will be doing much of your work in your home directory and subdirectories that you'll be creating to organize your files. You can go in your home directory anytime using the following command:

You can go in your home directory anytime using the following

**Command: `cd ~`**

**Click enter**

```
[amrood]$cd ~  
[amrood]$
```

## Print Working Directory

The pwd command prints the name of the present/current working directory (PWD - Print Working Directory):

You can see what directory your currently in at anytime using the following

**Command: pwd**

**Click enter**

```
himanshu@ansh:~$ pwd  
/home/himanshu
```

## List contents in your current directory

Lists all contents in the present working directory

You can see all the content in the present within a directory anytime using the following

**Command: ls**

**Click enter**

```
# ls
```

```
0001.pcap      Desktop      Downloads    index.html   install.log.syslog  Pictures  Tem  
anaconda-ks.cfg  Documents    fbcmd_update.php  install.log  Music           Public    Vid
```

## List of hidden files

List all files including hidden file starting with '.'

You can see all the files including hidden files present within a directory anytime using the following

**Command: `ls -la`**

**Click enter**

# Example of ls -la

```
Sumairs-MacBook-Pro:~ Syntax$ ls -al
total 56
drwxr-xr-x+ 27 Syntax  staff    918 Mar  7 19:31 .
drwxr-xr-x   6 root    admin   204 Mar  1 10:52 ..
-r-----   1 Syntax  staff     7 Mar  1 10:49 .CFUserTextEncoding
-rw-r--r--@  1 Syntax  staff 10244 Mar  7 18:58 .DS_Store
drwx----- 13 Syntax  staff   442 Mar  7 19:02 .Trash
-rw-r--r--   1 Syntax  staff    43 Mar  2 15:08 .bash_history
drwxr-xr-x  12 Syntax  staff   408 Mar  7 18:39 .bash_sessions
drwxr-xr-x   8 Syntax  staff   272 Mar  1 15:24 .eclipse
drwxr-xr-x   3 Syntax  staff   102 Mar  1 15:21 .oracle_jre_usage
drwxr-xr-x   8 Syntax  staff   272 Mar  1 15:24 .p2
drwxr-xr-x   3 Syntax  staff   102 Mar  1 15:24 .tooling
-rw-----   1 Syntax  staff   631 Mar  7 18:49 .viminfo
drwxr-xr-x   3 Syntax  staff   102 Mar  1 15:14 .zoomus
drwxr-xr-x   3 Syntax  staff   102 Mar  7 19:31 1
drwx-----   3 Syntax  staff   102 Mar  1 10:53 Applications
drwx-----+ 18 Syntax  staff   612 Mar  7 19:36 Desktop
drwx-----+  4 Syntax  staff   136 Mar  2 09:46 Documents
drwx-----+  6 Syntax  staff   204 Mar  3 15:00 Downloads
drwx-----@ 51 Syntax  staff 1734 Mar  1 18:33 Library
drwx-----+  3 Syntax  staff   102 Mar  1 10:49 Movies
drwx-----+  3 Syntax  staff   102 Mar  1 10:49 Music
drwx-----+  3 Syntax  staff   102 Mar  1 10:49 Pictures
drwxr-xr-x+  5 Syntax  staff   170 Mar  1 10:49 Public
drwxr-xr-x   3 Syntax  staff   102 Mar  1 15:23 eclipse
drwxr-xr-x   6 Syntax  staff   204 Mar  1 15:39 eclipse-workspace
-rw-r--r--   1 Syntax  staff    22 Mar  7 18:49 test.txt
drwxr-xr-x   3 Syntax  staff   102 Mar  7 19:26 test1
```

## Creating a file

You can use vi/vim editor to create ordinary files on any Unix system. You simply need to give following

**Command:** `vi filename.extension` or `vim filename.extension`

**Click enter**

Example:

Test.txt

Test.pdf

Test.xlsx



## Example of vi

```
Arifs-MacBook-Pro:~ arif$ vi test.txt
```

[illegible]

## Adding text to a file

After executing the command: `vi test.txt`

We're in position to add text

By hold **shift** and **i** at the same time the editor allows us to insert text

**i** means insert

Once we're finish hit **esc** and **:wq!** | **w** means write, **q** means quit

This will save our text we have added to the file

## Step One

Command: **vi** Hello.txt  
**Click enter**

```
Arifs-MacBook-Pro:~ arif$ vi Hello.txt
```

## Step Two

Commad: **hold shift and i at the same time**



## Step Three

Enter any text

```
Hello world
```

-- INSERT --

## Step Four

Command: Hit **esc**

```
Hello world
```

## Step Five

Commad: **:wq!**

**Click enter**

Which means write and quite

```
Hello world
```

: wq! 

## View information within a file

You can use cat command to see the content of a file **Command: cat** filename.extensions. Following is the simple example to see the content of above created file:

**Command: cat** Hello.txt

**Click enter**



# Example of cat command

```
Arifs-MacBook-Pro:~ arif$ vi Hello.txt
Arifs-MacBook-Pro:~ arif$ cat Hello
cat: Hello: No such file or directory
Arifs-MacBook-Pro:~ arif$ cat Hello.txt
Hello world
Arifs-MacBook-Pro:~ arif$
```


## Editing an existing file

vim command will allow you to edit an existing file

**Command:** `vim Hello.txt`

**Click enter**

**Afterwards follow the same steps for  
Used by vi command**



A screenshot of a terminal window with a dark background. The first line of the file 'Hello.txt' contains the text 'Hello world'. The rest of the file is empty, indicated by multiple tilde (~) characters representing blank lines. At the bottom of the window, the status line shows '"Hello.txt" 1L, 13C', indicating the file has 1 line and 13 characters.

## Creating a directory

Directories are created by the following

Command: **mkdir directoryName** (mk-make, dir- directory )

**Click enter**

**Examples: mkdir Test**

## Step 1 for the mkdir command

```
Arifs-MacBook-Pro:~ arif$ mkdir Test
```

## Step 2 for the mkdir command

Use the ls command to view the newly created directory

**Command: ls**

**Click enter**

```
Arifs-MacBook-Pro:~ arif$ mkdir Test
Arifs-MacBook-Pro:~ arif$ ls
Applications      Downloads         Movies            Public            eclipse
Desktop           Hello.txt        Music             Test              eclipse-workspace
Documents         Library          Pictures          Work              test.txt
Arifs-MacBook-Pro:~ arif$
```

## Moving into another directory

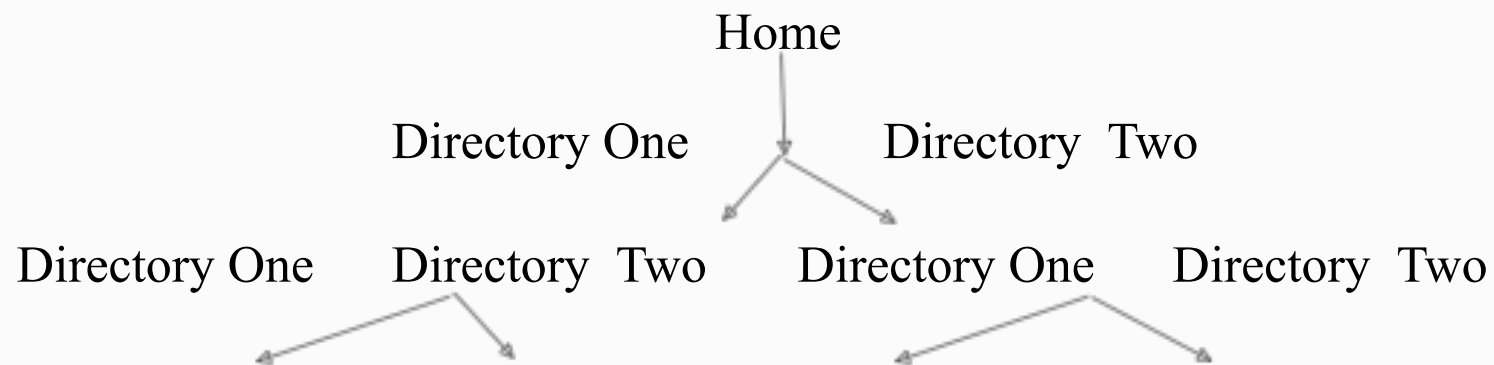
You can use `cd` command and **directoryName** to move into another directory. However, you can only move from one directory to another, if the directory you want to move into lives inside the current directory.

Examples:

The Home directory has these following directories:

Documents      Library      Music      Public      Work

## Example of how directories work



## Example moving into another directory

Start at the home directory

**Command:** `cd ~`

Look for the list of directories under this directory

**Command:** `ls`

Now move to the Desktop directory

**Command:** `cd Desktop`

Check what directory you are in now

**Command:** `pwd`



```
[Arifs-MBP:~ arif$ cd ~
[Arifs-MBP:~ arif$ ls
Applications      Documents      Library      Music      Public      eclipse
Desktop           Downloads     Movies       Pictures   Work        eclipse-workspace  test
[Arifs-MBP:~ arif$ cd Desktop/
[Arifs-MBP:Desktop arif$ pwd
/Users/arif/Desktop
Arifs-MBP:Desktop arif$ █
```

## Moving from directory to another directory

### **One level below**

If you want to go back just one level, enter the command: **cd ../**

### **Two levels below**

If you want to go back two levels, enter the command: **cd ../../**

Now you have the idea, and for sure you know how to go back three, four, five... and more levels below the current directory.

```
Arifs-MBP:tes2 arif$ cd ../  
Arifs-MBP:test1 arif$ pwd  
/Users/arif/test/test1  
Arifs-MBP:test1 arif$ cd ../  
Arifs-MBP:test arif$ pwd  
/Users/arif/test  
Arifs-MBP:test arif$ cd ../  
Arifs-MBP:~ arif$ pwd  
/Users/arif  
Arifs-MBP:~ arif$
```

## Deleting a file

To remove (or delete) a file from a directory. You simply need to give following

**Command:** `rm -rf filename.extensions`

**Click enter**

**Example:** `rm -rf test.txt`

Use the ls command to view that the file is no longer present within the directory

```
Arifs-MBP:~ arif$ rm -rf test.txt
Arifs-MBP:~ arif$ ls
Applications      Documents      Library      Music      Public      Work      eclipse-workspace
Desktop           Downloads     Movies      Pictures    Test        eclipse
Arifs-MBP:~ arif$
```