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Everything Linux Tutorial

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49 MOST-USED LINUX CMDS YOU SHOULD KNOW*

1. ls Command
ls is probably the first command every Linux user typed in their terminal. It allows you to list the contents of the directory you want (the current directory by default), including files and other nested directories.
If you want to see the content of other directories, type ls and then the directory's path.
There are variations you can use with the ls command:

ls -R lists all the files in the sub-directories
ls -a shows the hidden files
ls -al lists the files and directories with detailed information like the permissions, size, owner, etc.

2. pwd Command
The pwd command stands for "print working directory", and it outputs the absolute path of the directory you're in.

3. cd Command
It stands for "change directory" and, as its name suggests, switches you to the directory you're trying to access.
There are some shortcuts to help you navigate quickly:
cd .. (with two dots) to move one directory up
cd to go straight to the home folder
cd - (with a hyphen) to move to your previous directory

4. cp Command
Use the cp command to copy files from the current directory to a different directory.

5. mv Command
The primary use of the mv command is to move files, although it can also be used to rename files. The arguments in mv are similar to the cp command.

6. touch Command
The touch command allows you to create a blank new file.

7. mkdir Command
Use mkdir command to make a new directory.

8. rmdir Command
note: Be very careful with this command and double-check which directory you are in. This will delete everything and there is no undo.
Use the rmdir command to delete only empty directories.

9. rm Command
note: Be very careful with this command and double-check which directory you are in. This will delete everything and there is no undo.
The rm command is used to delete directories and the contents within them. If you only want to delete the directory —as an alternative to rmdir — use rm -r.

10. man Command
man displays the manual page of any other command (as long as it has one). To see the manual page of the touch command, type: man touch or if you want to refer to the man manual page type: man man

11. locate Command
Use this command to locate a file. Using the -i argument will make it case-insensitive, so you can search for a file even if you can't remember its exact name. To search for a file that contains two or more words, use an asterisk (*).

12. find Command
Similar to the locate command, using find also searches for files and directories. The difference is, you use the find command to locate files within a given directory.

13. grep Command
grep is one of the most powerful utilities for working with text files. It searches for lines that match a regular expression and print them.

14. chmod Command
chmod is used to change mode of a file; the read, write and execute permissions of files and directories. One of the most common use cases for chmod is to make a file executable by the user

15. chown Command
In Linux, all files are owned by a specific user. The chown command enables you to change or transfer the ownership of a file to the specified username.

16. sudo Command
Short for "SuperUser Do", this command enables you to perform tasks that require administrative or root permissions. It’ll ask for the administrator’s password.

17. df Command
Use df command to get a report on the system's disk space usage, shown in percentage and KBs. If you want to see the report in human-readable, prints sizes in powers of 1024, type df -h.

18. du Command
Curious about how much space a file or a directory takes, the du (Disk Usage) command is the answer. If you want to see it in bytes, kilobytes, and megabytes, add the -h argument to the command line.

19. ps Command
It prints useful information about the programs you're running, like process ID, TTY (TeleTYpewriter), time, and command name.

20. kill Command
Simply put, kill sends a TERM or kill signal to a process that terminates it. You can kill processes by entering either the PID (processes ID) or the program's binary name

21. history Command
Can't quite remember a command, history comes in handy. This command displays a list of commands you've used in the past.

22. tail Command
tail prints the contents of a file with one major caveat: It only outputs the last lines. By default, it prints the last 10 lines, but you can modify that number with -n.

23. whoami Command
The whoami command (short for "who am i") displays the username currently in use.

24. uname Command
uname(short for "Unix name") prints the operative system information, which comes in handy when you don't know your current Linux version.

25. wget Command
wget (World Wide Web get) is a utility to retrieve content from the internet.

26. head Command
head comamnd outputs the first 10 lines of a text file, but you can set any number of lines you want to display with the -n flag:

27. ping Command
ping is the most popular networking terminal utility used to test network connectivity.

28. apt, yum, pacman Commands
Depend on which Linux distribution you're using but you need a package managers to install, update, and remove the software you use every day. You can access these package managers through the command line.

29. echo Command
The echo command displays defined text in the terminal — it's that simple; here displaying our current type of shell.

30. which Command
The which command outputs the full path of shell commands.

31. passwd Command
passwd allows you to change the passwords of user accounts. First, it prompts you to enter your current password, then asks you for a new password and confirmation.

32. shred Command
This command overrides the contents of a file repeatedly, and as a result, the given file becomes extremely difficult to recover.

33. unzip Command
The unzip command allows you to extract the content of a .zip file.

34. w Command
w command displays who is currently logged in into your machine and what they are doing.

35. useradd Command
The most common command to create users.

36. userdel Command
userdel command will look for the system account files such as '/etc/password' and '/etc/group' and then it will delete all entries related to the user name from there.

37. wc Command
wc command counts the number of bytes, characters, words, and lines in a file or in standard input.

38. netstat Command
This tool is used to view and monitor network statistics as such network connections, routing tables, interface statistics, masquerade connections, multicast memberships, etc...

39. ufw Command
Uncomplicated Firewall is program for managing a netfilter firewall designed to be easy to use.

40. ssh Command
Use the ssh command to make a connection to a remote Linux computer and log into your account. To make a connection, you must provide your user name and the IP address or domain name of the remote computer.

41. free Command
The free command gives you a summary of the memory usage with your computer. It does this for both the main Random Access Memory (RAM) and swap memory. The -h (human) option is used to provide human-friendly numbers and units.

42. scp Command
scp is a secure copy program to transfer files or directories between Linux hosts on the network. It uses ssh protocol to transfer your data.

43. rsync Command
rsync synchronizes files and directories between local machines to the remote machine. It can recursively copy files and directory, copy symlinks, preserve (permissions, group, modification time and ownership) file identity.

44. mount Command
mount is a command used in Linux to attached filesystems and drives and umount command is used to detach (unmount) any attached file systems or devices.

45. ip Command
The Linux ip command is similar to ifconfig, but more powerful and is intended to be a replacement for it. With ip you have the advantage of performing several network administration tasks with only one command.

46. last Command
last is a command-line utility that displays information about the last login sessions of the system users. It is very useful when you need to track user activity or investigate a possible security breach.

47. watch Command
It is used to run any arbitrary command at regular intervals and displays the output of the command on the terminal window. It is useful when you have to execute a command repeatedly and watch the command output change over time.

48. top Command
Displays the processes of CPU. This command refreshes automatically, by default, and continues to show CPU processes until it's killed.

49. mkfs Command
mkfs command stands for "make file system" is utilized to make a file system (which is, a system for organizing a hierarchy of directories, subdirectories, and files) on a formatted storage device.

**These commands serve as the backbone of everyday operations.*
We hope to see you shortly.

SNUBteam.