Linux Commands Overview

Programming Languages hacks

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1 Documentation

Documentation	
man	On-line reference manuals
info	Read Info documents

2 File system

Directory listing	
ls	List directory contents
dir	Briefly ls
vdir	Verbosely ls
dircolors	Color setup for ls, etc

Basic file operations	
cp	Copy files
dd	Convert and copy a file
install	Copy files and set attributes
mv	Move (rename) files
rm	Remove files or directories
rmdir	Remove empty directories
shred	Remove files more securely
find	Search for files in a directory hierarchy
locate	Index and quickly search for all files

File name manipulation	
basename	Strip directory and suffix from a file name
dirname	Strip non-directory suffix from a file name
pathchk	Check file name portability

File comparing	
cmp	Compare two files byte by byte
diff	Compare files line by line
patch	Apply a diff file to an original

Changing file attributes	
chgrp	Change file groups
chmod	Change access permissions
chown	Change file owners and groups
touch	Change file timestamps

Special file types	
link	Make a hard link via the link syscall
unlink	Remove files via the unlink syscall
ln	Make links between files
readlink	Print the referent of a symbolic link
mkdir	Make directories
mkfifo	Make FIFOs (named pipes)
mknod	Make block or character special files

Disk	
df	Report file system disk space usage
du	Estimate file space usage
stat	Report file or file system status
sync	Synchronize memory and disk
fdformat	Low-level formats a floppy disk
fdisk	Partition table manipulator
fsck	Check and repair a Linux file system
mount	Attach a file system to the file tree

3 Network

Network	
hostname	Print or set system name
hostid	Print numeric host identifier
ifconfig	Configure a network interface
iwconfig	Configure a wireless network interface
route	Show and manipulate the IP routing table
arp	Manipulate the system ARP cache
ping	Sends echo requests to the host
traceroute	Traces path to a network host
nslookup	Query DNS interactively
netstat	Print network connections, routing tables, interface statistics, masquerade connections, and multicast memberships
tcpdump	Dump traffic on a network (sniffer)

4 Shell

Context	
alias	Create an alias
unalias	Remove an alias
pwd	Print working directory
stty	Print or change terminal characteristics
printenv	Print environment variables
tty	Print file name of terminal on standard input
clear	Clear the terminal screen
history	Command History
enable	Enable and disable builtin shell commands

Conditions	
false	Do nothing, unsuccessfully
true	Do nothing, successfully
test	Check file types and compare values
expr	Evaluate expressions

Redirection	
tee	Redirect output to multiple files

Numeric operations	
factor	Show factors of numbers
seq	Print sequences of numbers

5 Text managing

Printing text	
echo	Print a line of text
printf	Format and print data
yes	Print a string until interrupted

Output of entire files	
less	Display output one screen at a time
cat	Concatenate and write files
tac	Concatenate and write files in reverse
nl	Number lines and write files
ol	Write files in octal or other formats

Output of parts of files	
head	Output the first part of files
tail	Output the last part of files
split	Split a file into fixed-size pieces
csplit	Split a file into context-determined pieces
grep	Print lines matching a pattern

Summarizing files	
wc	Print newline, word, and byte counts
sum	Print checksum and block counts
cksum	Print CRC checksum and byte counts
md5sum	Print or check MD5 digests
sha1sum	Print or check SHA-1 digests

Operating on characters	
tr	Translate, squeeze, and/or delete characters
expand	Convert tabs to spaces
unexpand	Convert spaces to tabs

Operating on fields within a line	
cut	Print selected parts of lines
paste	Merge lines of files
join	Join lines on a common field

Operating on file contents	
sed	Basic text transformations on an input stream
awk	Pattern scanning and text processing language

Operating on formatting	
fmt	Reformat paragraph text
pr	Paginate or columnate files for printing
fold	Wrap input lines to fit in specified width

Operating on sorted files	
sort	Sort text files
uniq	Uniquify files
comm	Compare two sorted files line by line
ptx	Produce a permuted index of file contents
tsort	Topological sort

6 System

Users	
id	Print user identity
logname	Print current login name
whoami	Print effective user ID
groups	Print group names a user is in
users	Print login names of users currently logged in
who	Print who is currently logged in
useradd	Create a new user or update default new user information
usermod	Modify a user account

System	
date	Print or set system date and time
uname	Print system information
free	Display amount of free and used memory in the system

Process control	
kill	Sending a signal to processes
ps	Information of the active processes
top	Real-time view of system and tasks

7 Commands

Tools	
source	Read and execute commands in the current shell context
which	Locate a command
whereis	Locate the binary, source, and manual page files for a command
xargs	Build and execute command lines from standard input

Modified command invocation	
chroot	Modify the root directory
env	Modify environment variables
nice	Modify niceness
nohup	Immunize to hangups
su	Modify user and group ID
time	Run programs and summarize system resource usage
watch	Execute a program periodically, showing output fullscreen

Delaying	
sleep	Delay for a specified time