

Basic Unix commands

Command description	Command syntax
list files	ls [<filenames>]
change directory	cd <directory>
make directory	mkdir <directory>
copy	cp <filename1> <filename2>
move (rename)	mv <filename1> <filename2>
remove (delete)	rm <filenames>
display contents	more <filename>
edit	vi <filename>
display lines from beginning	head <filename>
display lines from end	tail <filename>
display file	cat <filename>
display file in reverse order	tac <filename>
change access mode	chmod <permissions> <filename>
show process status	ps [<flags>]
show running processes	top
run in background	<filename> &
list background jobs	jobs
bring to foreground	fg %<job_number>
send to background	bg %<job_number>
delete process	kill %<process_number>
directing output to file	<command> > <filename>
getting input from file	<command> < <filename>
calculating	expr <arguments> <operators>
screen messages	echo <arguments>
search for string	grep [<options>] <string> <filenames>
find differences	diff <filename1> <filename2> or cmp
find files	find <firectory> <constraints>
disk usage	du [<directory>]
detailed help	man <command>
show command path	which <command>
new command	alias <new_name> <detailed command>
make or open archive file	tar <flags> <archive_name> <filenames>
define variable	set <variable_name> = <string>
define environment variable	setenv <envariable> <string>
stream editors	sed, awk, <u>perl</u> , ex, vi

<argument> : replace with actual argument

[<argument>]: optional argument

. : current directory

.. : directory on level up

.<filename> : hidden file [ls -A] to display

<command1> | <command2> : command1 output used as input for command2

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