



Linux Command Reference

Overview of Basic Commands in Linux

SYSTEM		FILES AND DIRECTORIES	
uname -a	prints the OS name, hostname, kernel version and processor architecture	touch file	creates a text file
		vi file	creates or edits a text file
cat /etc/*release	prints the Linux distribution and version	cat file	prints the contents of a text file
hostname	prints the computer name	grep pattern file	searches for a pattern in a text file
date	prints the date and time	file file	prints the data format type of a file
uptime	prints the time since the system boot	ls -l file/directory	prints a file permissions, ownership and size or the contents of a directory
runlevel	prints the system runlevel		
init runlevel	changes the system runlevel	find path -name file	searches for a file in the path
dmidecode	prints hardware and bios information	pwd	prints the path to the current directory
lscpu	prints information about the processor	cd directory	changes the current directory
free	prints the memory and swap usage	mkdir directory	creates a directory
cat /var/log/messages	prints generic system logs	cp file directory	copies a file to a directory
history	prints last executed commands	mv file file/directory	renames or moves a file
man command	prints a command manual page	rm (-r) file/directory	removes a file/directory
exit	exits a shell or logs the user out	ACCOUNTS AND PERMISSIONS	
shutdown -r now	reboots the system	useradd user	creates a user account
shutdown -h now	powers off the system	usermod user	modifies a user account
DEVICES		userdel user	removes a user account
lspci	prints PCI devices	cat /etc/passwd	prints user accounts
lsusb	prints USB devices	groupadd group	creates a group account
lsblk	prints block devices (disks)	groupmod group	modifies a group account
fdisk device	prints, creates or removes partitions	groupdel group	removes a group account
partprobe	informs the OS about disk partitioning	cat /etc/group	prints group accounts
FILE SYSTEMS AND SWAP		passwd user	sets or changes the user's password
mke2fs partition/LV	creates a file system	whoami	prints the effective user name
resize2fs partition/LV	resizes a file system	who	prints currently logged-in users
e2fsck partition/LV	checks or repairs a file system	last	prints last logged-in users
cat /etc/fstab	prints persistent file systems	su - user	switches to the user's account
mount	prints mounted file systems	sudo command	runs a command as another user
mount partition/directory	mounts a file system	chown user file	sets the ownership of a file
umount partition/directory	unmounts a file system	chmod perm file	sets a file access permissions
df	prints file systems usage	umask perm	sets permissions for new files
		PROCESSES AND JOBS	
mkswap partition/LV	creates a swap space	ps -ef	prints a static list of processes
swapon partition/LV	activates a swap space	top	prints a dynamic list of processes
swapoff partition/LV	deactivates a swap space	jobs	prints jobs running in the background
cat /proc/swaps	prints active swap partitions	crontab -l	prints scheduled and repeated jobs
LVM (Logical Volume Manager)		systemctl start service	starts a service
pvcreate partition	creates a physical volume (PV)	systemctl stop service	stops a service
pvremove partition	removes a physical volume	systemctl status service	prints a service status
pvs	prints physical volumes	NETWORK	
pvdisplay	prints physical volumes in detail	ip addr show	prints all network interfaces
vgcreate VG PV	creates a volume group (VG)	netstat -rn	prints the kernel IP routing table
vgextend VG PV	adds a PV to the volume group	ping host	detects a host in the network
vgreduce VG PV	removes a PV from the volume group	ssh user@host	connects to a remote host
vgremove VG	removes a volume group	sftp user@host	transfers data between remote hosts
vgs	prints volume groups	SOFTWARE (Red Hat, Fedora and CentOS)	
vgdisplay	prints volume groups in detail	yum list	lists installed and available packages
lvcreate LV VG	creates a logical volume (LV)	yum info application	prints information about a package
lvresize LV	resizes a logical volume	yum install application	installs a package
lvremove LV	removes a logical volume	yum update	updates all packages
lvs	prints logical volumes	yum remove application	uninstalls a package
lvdisplay	prints logical volumes in detail		