

Useful Commands

sudo	Run the given command as the root user
ls	List the contents of a directory
cd	Change directory
cat	Concatenate files together and print them to screen (std out), if only one file is given just print the file to the screen
touch	Create a file
w	Print what other users are running
man	Manual page viewer
apropos	Manual page searcher
history	Print the command history to the terminal
echo	Print to the terminal
env	Print the current environment variables
whoami	Display the user running the commands
lastlog	Shows the last time any user on the system has logged in
df	Shows the size of all the filesystems

Bang (!) commands

!!	Run the previous command. <code>sudo !!</code> is very helpful
!:0	The first word of the last command
!\$	The last word of the previous command. Example, <code>mkdir /tmp/foo</code> , then run <code>cd !\$</code> to change directory to the one you've just created
!foo	Run the previous command starting with foo
!foo:p	Print the previous command starting with foo
!!:s/f oo/ba r	Substitute foo with bar within the previous command
^foo^bar	Same as above, runs the previous command replacing foo with bar

Bang (!) commands (cont)

!comm: s/f oo/b ar	This will search for commands starting with comm, replace foo with bar and execute the command. Can be appended with <code>:p</code> to print out the command before running
!n	Will run command n in the history, replace with whatever number you want from the output of the history command. <code>!1</code> will run the first command. <code>!-1</code> will run the previous command, same as <code>!!</code>
\$_	Variable for the last argument in the previous command.
\$()	Will run whatever is in the <code>()</code> as a subshell and return the result before running the rest of the command

Hint in some shells you can hit space after the bang command and the command in full will populate

Remote Network Connections

ssh	Use the Secure Shell application to log into a given remote host
ftp	Use the File Transfer Protocol to download/upload a file to a given host
telnet	Interact with network sockets

Web Builtins

curl	Interact with files / webpages / API endpoints
wget	Download files over the network

Processes

top	Output top running processes
kill	Send signals to the given process or stop a process



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Keyboard Shortcuts

[up arrow]	Move up in the command history
[down arrow]	Move down in the command history
[left arrow]	Move the cursor left
[right arrow]	Move the cursor right
[TAB]	Autocompletion
[SPACE] cmd	In some shells will not save the command to the history file
Ctrl+a	Move the cursor to the front of a command
Ctrl+e	Move to the cursor to the end of the command
Ctrl+r	Reverse search history
Ctrl+c	Terminate the current running command or clear the terminal of the command about to run
Ctrl+S hift+c	Copy the selected text out of the terminal window
Ctrl+S hift+v	Paste into the terminal window
Ctrl+q	Send the current command to the queue for one command before it re-populates the terminal
Ctrl+l	Clear the terminal

Shell Redirection Operators

cmd > file	Send the output of the command to a file
cmd >> file	Append the output of the command to a file
cmd 2> file	Send Standard Error (<code>stderr</code>) to a file
cmd 2> /dev/null	Send <code>stderr</code> to null. In essence throw away all outputted errors
cmd1 cmd2	Send the output of <code>cmd1</code> to <code>cmd2</code>
cmd1 ; cmd2	Run <code>cmd1</code> then <code>cmd2</code>
cmd1 && cmd2	Run <code>cmd2</code> if <code>cmd1</code> is successful
cmd1 cmd2	Run <code>cmd2</code> if <code>cmd1</code> is not successful

Networking

ifconfig	Lists the current networking interfaces and information about them like the assigned IP addresses
ip a	Like ifconfig, lists the current interfaces and associated IP addresses
ss	Lists active networking sockets
nc	Opens a network socket

Text

wc	Text count
grep	Text searcher
nano	Text editor
vim	Text editor
emacs	Text editor
less	Text viewer
more	Text viewer
awk	Text manipulator
sed	Text manipulator
head	Text reader
tail	Text reader

Jobs

cmd &	Run the command in the background as a job
jobs	List all running jobs
Ctrl+z	Send the current running process to the background and suspend it
bg %n	Background job ID n
fg %n	Foreground job ID n
kill %n	Kill job ID n
kill -SIGNAL %n	Send a given SIGNAL to job ID n
diswon %n	Disown the job ID n so it will run even if the terminal exits



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