Cheatography

Linux Commands & Options Cheat Sheet by River L. (Tamaranth) via cheatography.com/42882/cs/46551/

Keyboard Shortcuts		
Shortcut	What It Does	Notes
Esc + .	Insert last argument entered	Repeat to go back to previous arguments
Up Arrow	Auto-fill last command entered	Repeat to go back to previous commands
Ctrl+D	Logout / Exit	
Ctrl+L	Clear terminal output	
Ctrl+Shift+T	Open new terminal tab	
Ctrl+Arrow (Right/Left)	Move to beginning/en	d of a word

Wildcards & Shortcuts		
Wildcard	What It Represents	Example
~	Current user's home directory	
	The directory you're currently in	
• •	Parent directory of you	r current directory
*	All files in current directory	ls i* = all files starting with "i"
?	"Any character"	f??e matches anything with 4 characters that starts with "f" & ends with "e"
[aou]	Match to any one of the enclosed characters	c[aou]t matches to "cat", "- cot", and "cut"
!!	"Last command run" (inserts into current command)	<pre>sudo !! = rerun command as root</pre>
^ x ^ y	Rerun last command but replace <i>x</i> with <i>y</i>	ls /usr followed by ^usr^tm p will run ls /tmp
!3	Rerun 3rd command from command history	
!ls	Runs most recent command from history that had "Is" in it	

Important Directories & Files	
Directory/File	(Stands For) Purpose
/root	Root user's home directory
/home	Normal users' home directories
/var	(Variables) Database locations, spool files for mail, etc.
/usr	(User System Resources) System resources used by users
— /usr /bin	(Binaries) Executables usable by normal users
— /usr /sbin	(System Binaries) Executables only usable by root user
— /usr /lib	52-bit libraries
— /usr/lib64	64-bit libraries
/etc	(Extended Text Configurations) Configuration files
— /etc /passwd	User account config files
— /etc /group	Group membership info & config files
— /etc /shadow	User password info & config files
/etc/sudoers	Main file for sudo config
-/etc/sudoers.d/	Destination for sudo config "dropping files"
— /etc /login.defs	Defines default properties used for new user accounts

vim Editor Controls

Command Mode		
0	Starts new line and switches to Insert mode	
CW	"Change word" - deletes word and switches to Insert mode	
G	Go to end of file	
dd	Delete or cut entire line	
уу	Copy entire line	
р	Paste copied text	
x	Delete character cursor is on top of	
dw	Delete word cursor is on top of	
d\$	Delete from cursor to end of line	
ZZ	Save & quit (existing files)	
	Extended Command Mode	
:w filename	Save (new files)	
:wq	Save & quit (existing files)	



By **River L.** (Tamaranth) cheatography.com/tamaranth/

Not published yet. Last updated 8th June, 2025. Page 1 of 3. Sponsored by CrosswordCheats.com Learn to solve cryptic crosswords! http://crosswordcheats.com

Cheatography

Linux Commands & Options Cheat Sheet by River L. (Tamaranth) via cheatography.com/42882/cs/46551/

Misc. Commands	
date	
+%F	display current date in international format (YYYY-mm-dd)
+%R	display current time (24-hr clock)
+%s	display # of seconds since epoch
<pre>ssh user@ip.addr</pre>	Start ssh connection
-v	verbose; shows in detail what's happening while establishing connection
-Y	enables graphical application support
-p port#	connect to ssh service not listening on default port 22
-i keyfile	reads private key from identity file for public key authentication
echo	Creates output (equivalent of print in Python)
tmux	
ps -au	Show current processes & which user started them

ls dir1	List contents of dir1	
-1	additional info (owner, perms, etc.)	
-a	lists all, including hidden files	
-i	adds file inode to info displayed	
-d	info for directory itself (rather than its contents)	
mkdir dirl	Create a new director	гy
-p	creates full path (multiple directories if needed)	
-v	verbose (output shows action taken)	
cp dir1 dir2		Copy dir1 into dir2
-r	recursively ("and its contents")	
rm dir1	Removes (deletes) an empty	directory
-r		
mv filel dirl	Move file1 into dir1	
-v	verbose (output shows action taken)	
	Oversteen school link form file Wink	-II 4 - 61 - II4 - 1
ln target link	Creates a hard link from file "link get"	to file "tar-
-s	makes a symbolic link instead of a hard link	



By River L. (Tamaranth) cheatography.com/tamaranth/ Not published yet. Last updated 8th June, 2025. Page 2 of 3.

Learn to solve cryptic crosswords! http://crosswordcheats.com

Cheatography

Linux Commands & Options Cheat Sheet by River L. (Tamaranth) via cheatography.com/42882/cs/46551/

Users & Groups		Users & Groups (con
Command	Options	groups user1
id user1	Show UID, GID, & secondary groups (current user if not specified)	passwd user1
getent passwd usr1	Find out if usr1 is known to the system	chage user1
useradd user1	Add a new user	
-u #	set a specific UID	-m days
	-s /sbin/nologin	
usermod user1	Change properties of existing user	-M days
-c "text"	adds text to comment field	-W days
-g group1	changes primary group to group1	-I days
-G group1	replaces supplementary group with	-
	group1	-d 0
-aG group1		-E date
-L user1		getent group grp
newgrp group1	Change current user's primary group	groupadd group1
userdel user1	(temporary ; current session only) Deletes user1 but not their home	-g #
userdel useri	directory	-r
-r		groupmod group1
		-g #
		To set the number of chage -E \$(date
		To give full admin priv

groups user1	Displays simple list of groups user1 is a member of
passwd user1	Set password for user1
chage user1	Change password aging properties for user
-m days	minimum # of days between password changes
-M days	maximum # of days between password changes
-W days	warning period before password expires
-I days	inactivity period (password usable after expiration)
-d 0	require password change on next login
-E date	date when account expires
getent group grp1	Find out if grp1 is known to the system
groupadd group1	Create a new group
-g #	set a specific GID
-r	create a system group
groupmod group1	Change properties of existing group
-g #	change GID to specified number
To set the number of days chage -E \$ (date +day	from today when user's account expires: ys %Y-%m-%d)
To give full admin privilege	es to a user or group: 1] ALL=(ALL) ALL" >> /etc/s udo



By River L. (Tamaranth) cheatography.com/tamaranth/

Not published yet. Last updated 8th June, 2025. Page 3 of 3.

ers.d/name

Sponsored by CrosswordCheats.com Learn to solve cryptic crosswords! http://crosswordcheats.com