

1 The most important UNIX/LINUX commands

<pre>man CMD whatis CMD apropos TEXT info CMD help CMD CMD --help CMD -h -? -. type [-a] CMD which/whence CMD</pre>	<p>Display description for CMD [manual]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Display one line of description for CMD (<i>man-index!</i>) Display one line of description for topic TEXT (<i>man-index!</i>) Display description for CMD (<i>GNU programs!</i>) Display description for builtin shell CMD (<i>bash</i>) <p>Display usage message for CMD (<i>GNU programs!</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Display usage message for CMD (<i>all other programs!</i>) [help] <p>Search for CMD type/place (builtin/alias/function/binary, <i>bash</i>, <i>all</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Search for CMD type/place (<i>(t) csh/ksh</i>)
<pre>who whoami who am i id [-a] su [-] USER su su - exit logout passwd</pre>	<p>Display all users logged in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Display currently (in terminal) logged in user <p>Display user name + all his group names + IDs [identity, all]</p> <p>Switch to account USER (<i>-=incl. environment!</i>) [switch user]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Become superuser (<i>without/with environment change!</i>) Switch back to former account resp. log out <p>Change password (1x old, 2x new one) [password]</p>
<pre>more/less FILE... CMD more/less lp(r) FILE... CMD lp(r)</pre>	<p>Display FILE page by page (also <i>pg, page</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Display CMD output page by page <p>Print out FILE (<i>lpr=BSD, lp=SysV</i>) [line print]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Print out CMD output
<pre>pwd cd PATH cd cd / cd .. ls [DIR] ls -l [DIR] ls -a [DIR] ls -d [DIR] ls -F [DIR] ls -R [DIR] ls -t [DIR]</pre>	<p>Display current directory [print working directory]</p> <p>Switch to directory PATH [change directory]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Switch to own home directory (e.g. <i>/home/tom</i>) Switch to root resp. parent directory <p>Display file names of current directory sorted alphabetically</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Display file names + attributes ... [long] Display all file names (<i>hidden ones too!</i>) [all] Display only directory name, not content [directory] Append file type postfix to name (<i>*=exec, /=dir, @=link</i>) [Flag] Display whole directory tree from DIR on [Recursive] Display sorted by modification time [time]
<pre>touch FILE... * mv FILE NAME mv FILE... DIR mv FILE DIR/NAME cp FILE NAME cp FILE... DIR ln FILE NAME ln -s FILE NAME rm FILE... rm -r DIR... mkdir DIR... rmdir DIR... cat FILE1 FILE2...</pre>	<p>Update change date of FILE or create new file</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matches all files in current directory <p>Rename FILE to NAME [move]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Move FILE... to directory DIR [move] Move FILE to directory DIR and rename it [move] <p>Copy FILE to NAME (<i>overwrite!</i>) [copy]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copy FILE... to directory DIR [copy] <p>Create hard link NAME to FILE [link]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create symbolic link NAME to FILE [symbolic] <p>Delete FILE [remove]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delete complete directory tree starting at DIR [recursive] <p>Create directory DIR [make directory]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delete directory DIR (<i>has to be empty!</i>) [remove directory] <p>Concatenate files and output them to <i>stdout</i> [concatenate]</p>
<pre>chmod MODE FILE... umask [NNN] umask</pre>	<p>Change file perm. MODE=[<i>ugoa</i>][<i>+ -=</i>][<i>rxwst</i>] [change mode]</p> <p>Display/set standard permission mask NNN for new files/dirs (<i>defines permissions to be removed!</i>) [usage mask]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normally displays 022 (i.e. remove write perm. for <i>g+o</i>)

2 Other important UNIX/LINUX commands

<pre><STRG-C> ps ps aux ps -ef kill PID kill -9 PID</pre>	<p>Cancel currently running command (SIGINTR = 2)</p> <p>Display own processes [process status]</p> <p>Display all p. (BSD/SysV) [all/user/extended/very/full]</p> <p>Stop process PID (standard signal SIGTERM = 15)</p> <p>Stop process PID unconditionally (SIGKILL = 9)</p>
<pre>CMD & nohup CMD & <STRG-Z> bg jobs</pre>	<p>Run CMD in background</p> <p>Analogous, no stop on logout [no hangup]</p> <p>Switch current command to background [background]</p> <p>Display all background processes of shell</p>
<pre>CMD < FILE CMD > FILE CMD >> FILE CMD 2> FILE CMD 2>> FILE CMD >& FILE CMD1 CMD2</pre>	<p>Read input for CMD from FILE</p> <p>Write output of CMD to FILE</p> <p>Append output of CMD to FILE</p> <p>Write error messages of CMD to FILE (<i>not (t) csh!</i>)</p> <p>Append error messages of CMD to FILE (<i>not (t) csh!</i>)</p> <p>Write output + error messages of CMD to FILE (<i>(t) csh!</i>)</p> <p>Connect output of CMD1 with input of CMD2 [pipe]</p>
<pre>VAR="TEXT" set VAR "TEXT" export VAR setenv VAR="TEXT" echo \$VAR</pre>	<p>Set shell variable VAR to value TEXT (<i>no space around =!</i>)</p> <p>Set shell variable for (t) csh (<i>no = but space!</i>)</p> <p>Convert shell variable VAR to environment variable</p> <p>Set environment variable for (t) csh (<i>=!</i>)</p> <p>Display content of variable VAR</p>
<pre>HOME LANG PATH PS1 prompt TERM USER/LOGNAME</pre>	<p>Standard directory for cd (home directory)</p> <p>Language settings (e.g. de_DE.UTF-8, fr_FR, es_ES) [language]</p> <p>Search path for binary programs (dirs separated by :)</p> <p>Define shell prompt (sh/(t) csh) [prompt string]</p> <p>Terminal type (editors, more, curses library)</p> <p>Name of logged in user</p>
<pre>grep "TEXT" FILE... CMD grep "TEXT" wc -l FILE... CMD wc -l head FILE... CMD head -50 tail FILE... CMD tail -50 tail -f FILE</pre>	<p>Display all lines of FILE that contain TEXT</p> <p>Display all lines of CMD output that contain TEXT</p> <p>Display number of lines in FILE [word count/lines]</p> <p>Display number of lines of CMD output</p> <p>Display first 10 lines of FILE</p> <p>Display first 50 lines of CMD output</p> <p>Display last 10 lines of FILE</p> <p>Display last 50 lines of CMD output</p> <p>Show new lines at end of FILE continuously [follow]</p>
<pre>echo "TEXT" clear date [+FORMAT]</pre>	<p>Display TEXT on terminal</p> <p>Erase terminal content (blank screen)</p> <p>Display date + time (according to FORMAT, e.g. %T, %D)</p>
<pre>more/less FILE... <SPACE> <RETURN> b /TEXT <RETURN> n N q h</pre>	<p>Page through FILE with more/less [visual]</p> <p>Skip to next page/one line further</p> <p>Skip one page back (<i>only less!</i>) [backward]</p> <p>Search TEXT</p> <p>Repeat last search forward/backward (<i>only less!</i>)</p> <p>Leave more/less [quit]</p> <p>Display help [help]</p>
<pre>vi FILE... i a I A o O ESC :wq <RETURN> ESC :q! <RETURN></pre>	<p>Edit FILE with Vi [visual]</p> <p>Switch into edit mode [insert/append/open]</p> <p>Leave edit mode (back to command mode)</p> <p>Exit Vi with saving edited file [write/quit]</p> <p>Exit Vi anyway (<i>without saving edited file!</i>) [quit]</p>