

Linux - General Commands Cheatsheet

File and Directory Commands

\$ ls	[ls -la]	- List directory contents
\$ cd	[cd /var/log]	- Change the current directory
\$ pwd	[pwd]	- Print the current directory path
\$ mkdir	[mkdir new_folder]	- Create a new directory
\$ cp	[cp file.txt /backup/]	- Copy files or directories
\$ mv	[mv old.txt new.txt]	- Move or rename files/ directories
\$ rm	[rm file.txt]	- Deletes files or directories
\$ touch	[touch myfile.txt]	- Create an empty file
\$ find	[find / -name '*.log']	- Search files in a directory tree

File Viewing and Text Processing

\$ cat	[cat file.txt]	- Display file content
\$ nano	[nano config.cfg]	- Simple terminal text editor
\$ less	[less file22.txt]	- View file one page at a time
\$ head	[head -n 20 file.txt]	- Show first X amount of lines
\$ tail	[tail log.txt]	- Show last lines of file.
\$ grep	[grep 'error' logfile.txt]	- Search text patterns in files
\$ sort	[sort names.txt]	- Sort lines in text
\$ wc	[wc file.txt]	- Count lines, words, bytes
\$ sed	[sed 's/old/new/g']	- Find and replace in text
\$ awk	[awk '{print \$1}' file.txt]	- Pattern scanning and text processing
\$ diff	[diff file1.txt file2.txt]	- Compare files line by line

System and Process Management

\$ uname	[uname -a]	- Shows system information
\$ whoami	[whoami]	- Displays current username
\$ free	[free -h]	- Show memory usage
\$ df	[df -h]	- Show disk space usage
\$ du	[du -sh *]	- Estimate file space usage
\$ ps	[ps aux]	- Display running processes
\$ top	[top]	- Monitor processes and utilisation live
\$ kill	[kill -9 1234]	- Terminate a process by ID

User/ Permissions and Shell/ Utilities

\$ sudo	[sudo apt update]	- Run command as super user
\$ passwd	[passwd]	- Change password
\$ tar	[tar -czvf file.tar.gz folder/]	- Archive file
\$ echo	[echo \$HOME]	- Print text or variables
\$ which	[which python3]	- Locate executable path
\$ man	[man grep]	- Display command manual
\$ alias	[alias ll='ls -la']	- Create a command shortcut