

# Linux for Beginners

- [Basic Commands](#)

# Basic Commands

## cd

- Usage
  - To change directories
- Examples

```
cd temp # browses to the directory called temp
cd /usr/bin # browses to /usr/bin folder
cd - # browse to previous directory
cd .. # browse to the parent direcotry
cd ../../ #browse 2 parent directories behind
```

## pwd

- Usage
  - To print current working directory
- Examples

```
pwd # simply lists the current folder you are in
```

## ls

- Usage
  - To list all the files and directories
- Examples

```
ls # lists current directory
ls -l # list current directory with details
ls -a # list all the hidden files
ls -R # list recursively
```

<p class="callout info">Please note, you can combine a number of the switches in one query rather than running them one by one. e.g. `ls -lah`</p>

# mkdir

- Usage
  - to create a new directory
- Examples

```
mkdir directory #create a folder with the name directory
mkdir -p directory/data #create a folder with a subfolder called data
```

# cp

- Usage
  - Copy a file from one place to another
- Examples

```
cp hash /temp #copies file into the specified folder
cp hash hash1 #copies the content of a file into a different one
cp -r folder1/ folder2/ #copies the folder with it's content into a folder called
folder2
```

# mv

- Usage
  - To move a file from one place to another, also can be used to rename a file.
- Examples

```
mv file1 ../ #moves the file from the current folder to the parent folder
mv file1 file2 #renames file1 to file2
```

# touch

- Usage
  - To create an empty file.
- Examples

```
touch file1 #create file 1
touch hash && echo "some_text" > hash # create a file cat hash and write in the file
the words "some_text"
```

# cat/tac

- Usage
  - To read the content of a file.
- Examples

```
cat hash # read the content of the file called hash
tac hash # same as above
```

# rm

- Usage
  - To remove a file or folder.
- Examples

```
rm file1 # remove file1
rm -rf folder1 # recursively remove the content of folder1 and discard any files in
use.
```

# grep

- Usage
  - Search for a line or specific text in a file.
- Examples

```
grep "text" file_with_text.txt # Print all lines that have the word "text"
grep -c "text" file_with_text.txt # Count the number of occurrences of the word "text"
```

```
grep -i "text" file_with_text #Print all lines that contain the case insensitive word "text"
```

The grep function has a ton of use cases, it can do regex matches, show lines before or after specific text and a lot more. I would advise to read the manual pages for more use cases. See the below URL for more information on the command: [GNU Grep 3.7](#)

# head

- Usage
  - Read the first n lines of a file.
- Examples

```
head file.txt # Default behaviour is to output the first 10 lines of a file
head -n 3 # Output the first 3 lines of a file
```

# tail

- Usage
  - Read the last n lines of a file
- Examples

```
tail file.txt # Default behaviour, output the last 10 lines of a file
tail -n 3 # Output the last 3 lines of a file
```

# chmod

- Usage
  - To change the permissions of a file or folder
- Examples

```
chmod +x file1 # make a specific file executable
chmod 754 file1 # grant the file read, write, execute to user, read and execute to
group and read to other
```

# echo

- Usage
  - To write something in the console or file.
- Examples

```
echo "Some really interesting text" #write the test between brackets
```

# clear

- Usage
  - To clear the terminal windows of text.
- Examples

```
clear # clears the terminal window
```

# sudo

- Usage
  - To escalate your privileges to super user.
- Examples

```
sudo ./script.sh # execute the script as root
sudo apt install memes # escalate your privileges to install the application called
memes
```