



Linux Command Summary



Release
Version 0.92
27.06.01

Canadian Linux Users Group

www.linux.ca

Command	Synopsis	Description
adduser	<i>adduser dstoneil</i>	This command will automatically add a new user to the system The Bash script can be found in /usr/sbin if it needs to be changes
alias	<i>alias help=man</i> <i>alias long=ls -al</i>	The alias command allows you to substitute a new name for a command An alias can also contain command line options Unless the alias definition is included in your .login file it is only temporary
apropos	<i>apropos keyword</i>	Display command names based on keyword search
at	<i>at 1:23 lp /home/index.html</i> <i>at 1:50 echo "lp Job Done"</i> <i>at -l</i> <i>at -d 5555</i>	The at command runs a list of commands at a specified time (e.g. print @ 1:23) This uses the echo command to send a message at 1:50 saying a print job is done Lists all scheduled jobs; an alias for the atq command This will cancel job number 5555; an alias for the atrm command
batch	Example:	Temporarily blank
cat	<i>cat /etc/filename</i> <i>cat file.a > file.b</i> <i>cat file.a > file.b</i>	Prints specified file to the screen Moves file.a to file.b Appends the content of file.a to the end file.b
cd	<i>cd /home/dstoneil</i> <i>cd ~username</i>	Changes directories to the specified one This will move you to the users specified home directory
chfn	<i>chfn dstoneil</i>	This will allow you to change finger information on that user As an example it will allow you to change dstoneil to Darcy S. O'Neil
chmod	<i>chmod 666 filename</i> <i>chmod 777 filename</i> <i>chmod a=rwx file</i>	This command will give a file Read - Write permission for everyone This command gives Read - Write - Execute permission to everyone This gives Read - Write - Execute permission to all users For a complete listing of the available chmod permission commands please refer to Page 4 - Table 1
chown	<i>chown dso /home/html</i> <i>chown dso /home/file.a</i>	This command will change the owner of the specified directory to dso This command will change the owner of the specified file to dso
clear	<i>clear</i>	This will clear your screen
cmp	<i>cmp -s file.a file.b</i>	Compares 2 files of any type. The -s option will return nothing in the files are the same
cp	<i>cp file.a file.b</i>	This will create a duplicate of file.a under a new file name, file.b
cpio	<i>ls /home cpio -o > /root</i> <i>cpio -it < /root > bk.indx</i>	This will copy the files of /home to the directory /root This will extract all of the files to /root and creates an index file called bk.indx
cpkgtool		Graphical front end to installpkg, removepkg, makepkg that uses ncurses. Coming Soon!
du	<i>du -k /home/html</i> <i>du -k /home/html/file.a</i>	Provides a summary of the disk space usage, in kb, within the specified path Provides a summary of disk space used by a particular file
df	<i>df -h</i>	Displays the total size, used and available space on all mounted file systems
fdformat	<i>fdformat /dev/fd0</i> <i>fdformat /dev/fd0H1440</i>	low level format of a floppy device in drive fd0 This will format a "Double Sided High Density" disk
file	<i>file file.a</i> <i>file -z file.a.tar</i> <i>file -L file.a</i>	This command will try to determine what type of file file.a is. (exec, text, etc.) Looks inside a compressed file to determine it's type. Follows symbolic links to be followed to determine file type
find	<i>find /path -name passwd</i>	Locates the specified string (passwd), starting in the specified directory (/path) All filenames or directories containing the string will be printed to the screen
finger	<i>finger</i>	This will list all users currently logged into the UNIX system
free	<i>free -t -o</i>	Provides a snapshot of the system memory usage
fsck	<i>fsck /hda</i>	file system check and repair
git		This is a file system viewer
grep	<i>cat /etc/passwd grep dso</i> <i>grep -i "Sample" /home/dstoneil</i>	This searches for and limits the command output to the pattern specified In this case all instances of dso from the /etc/passwd file are printed The -i option makes the search indifferent to case (e.g. sample or SAMPLE)
groupadd	<i>groupadd sudos</i>	Create a new group called sudos on the system
groups	<i>groups</i>	Shows which groups you are in
gzip	<i>gzip file.a</i> <i>gzip -d file.a.gz</i> <i>tar -zxvf file.a.tar.gz</i>	This will zip file.a and give it the extension file.a.gz This will unzip the file file.a.gz The z flag allow you to decompress the tar file on the fly
hostname		Get or set hostname. Typically, the host name is stored in the file /etc/HOSTNAME.



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ifconfig	<i>ifconfig eth0</i> <i>ifconfig eth0 up</i> <i>ifconfig eth1 192.168.0.2 up</i>	This will display the status of the currently defined interface (e.g Ethernet Card 0) This flag causes the interface to be activated (To deactivate an interface use <i>down</i>) Makes eth1 active with IP address 192.168.0.2
insmod		used (by root) to install modular device drivers
installpkg	<i>installpkg -r packagename.tgz</i>	This will install a Slackware package with the name you specify (-r option)
removepkg	<i>removepkg -copy packagename</i>	This will remove the named package but make a copy in the /tmp directory
rpm2targz	<i>rpm2targz filename.rpm</i>	This will convert an RPM file to a Slackware .tgz package
upgradepkg	<i>upgradepkg packagename.tgz</i>	This will upgrade a Slackware package and remove any old or no used files
jobs	<i>jobs</i>	This will list all jobs presently running on your system
kernelcfg		GUI to add/remove kernel modules (as root in X terminal).
kill	<i>kill 2587</i> <i>kill -9 2587</i>	Kills the process specified by the Process ID Number (2587) The -9 flag forces the process to die
last	<i>last -300</i> <i>last -5 username</i>	Prints to the screen the username, location, log-in and log-off times of the last -x logins to the system. The username will select the last x time that person has used the system. The last command is not traceable.
lastlog	<i>lastlog</i>	Displays a list of the login attempts / times of all users on the system (security check)
less	<i>less /html/index.html</i>	Less displays information a screen at a time, you can also page back and forth
ln	<i>ln -s /usr/dso /home/html</i>	Creates a "soft" link from the first directory or file to the second. A user changing into /home/html will actually be directed to the /usr/dso directory.
locate	<i>locate wordperfect</i>	The locate command will locate the file specified and output a directory path (see "updatedb")
lpr	<i>lpr /home/html/index.html</i>	This command will print the file index.html to the printer
lprm	<i>lprm 12</i>	This command will cancel print job 12 in the printer queue
lpq	<i>lpq</i>	This will show the contents of the print queue
ls	<i>ls -al</i> <i>ls -F</i>	Lists all information on all files (-a) in the current directory in single line format (-l). Includes permissions, owners, modification time, file size and name Marks (directories with a trailing /) - (executables with an *) (symbolic links w/ @)
lsmod		used (by root) to show kernel modules currently loaded
make	<i>make mrproper</i> <i>make xconfig</i> <i>make dep</i> <i>make clean</i> <i>make bzImage</i> <i>make lnx</i> <i>make install</i>	Cleans up junk accidentally left behind by the development team This will ask you a series of questions about your system and drive requirements This will uses dependencies The clean command will clean up any unnecessary files left lying around This will begin the process of compiling your new kernel This specified that the source will be compiled under a Linux system After the make command this will install the compiled binaries to their directories To create a log of installed programs do: <i>make install > /root/install_logs/program-1.0</i>
man	<i>man vi</i>	Prints the manual page on the specific topic (vi) to the screen. To scroll down the page use the Space Bar, to scroll up use the letter b, to exit press the q key.
mkdir	<i>mkdir pascal</i>	This will create new directory (pascal) in the present directory
mkfs	<i>mkfs -t msdos -c -v /dos-drive</i> <i>mkfs -t xfs -c -v /home</i>	Formats a partition and builds a new filesystem on it -t specifies filesystem type, -v produces verbose output, -c checks for bad blocks
more	<i>more /home/html/index.htm</i>	Paginates the specified file so it can be read line by line (using Enter key) or screen by screen using the Space Bar. Use b key to move back and q to quit.
mount	<i>mount -t msdos /dev/hda5 /dos</i> <i>mount -t iso9660 /dev/sr0 /cd</i> <i>mount -t msdos /dev/fd0 /mnt</i> <i>mount -a /etc/fstab</i>	Mounts the msdos partition on the Hard Drive (hda5) to the directory /dos Mounts the CD-ROM under the directory /cd Mounts the floppy drive with an msdos file system to /mnt Attempts to mount all file systems located in the /etc/fstab file
mv	<i>mv /home/file /dso/file</i>	Moves the specified file to another directory
nice	<i>nice -5 sort one.a > two.b</i>	This command adjusts the priority of a process before it starts The higher the number the lower the priority. All process start at 10
nohup		This command allows a process to continue after you log out
passwd	<i>passwd</i>	Launches the password program so the user can change their password
ps	<i>ps</i> <i>ps -ef grep dsoneil</i>	Lists all current running processes, their corresponding pids, and their status This will find all of the processes for user dsoneil
pstree	<i>pstree -p</i>	Provides a list of running processes in a tree structure
pwd	<i>pwd</i>	Prints the current working directory
quota	<i>quota</i>	Lists the user's quotas for both ada (/home/ada/a#/username) and amelia (/var/spool/mail/username), indicating the number of blocks used and the users quota.



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renice	<i>renice -5 12345</i>	Adjusts the priority of the running process 12345 (The 5 lowers the priority)
rm	<i>rm file.a</i> <i>rm -i file.a</i> <i>rm -r /home/dso</i>	Removes the specified file in your current directory Removes specified file but prompts for confirmation before deleting Removes the specified directory and all files in that directory
rmdir	<i>rmdir pascal</i> <i>rmdir -r pascal</i>	Removes the empty directory specified, if not empty you will receive an error Removes the directory and all files in that directory
route	<i>route -n</i> <i>route add -net 192.168.0.0 eth0</i> <i>route add default gw 192.168.0.5 eth0</i>	Displays the Linux Kernel IP routing table This will tell other systems what network to route your system on This will tell the your system where the Internet gateway is located This information can be added to you /etc/rc.d/rc.local system files (Slackware)
rpm	<i>rpm -i file.2.0-i386.rpm</i> <i>rpm -U file.2.0-i386.rpm</i> <i>rpm -i --force file.rpm</i> <i>rpm -e file.2.0-i386.rpm</i> <i>rpm -i --nodeps file.rpm</i> <i>rpm -qa</i> <i>rpm -qa grep gtk</i> <i>rpm -qi file.2.0-i386.rpm</i> <i>rpm --rebuild file.2.0.rpm</i>	This will unpack an RPM file. This is the most basic method of installation This will install an upgrade to a previous RPM package. The --force option will force the package to re-install This will remove and RPM package. (You do not need to use the complete name) This command uses the "no dependencies" flag. This will give a screen print out of all packages installed (q is query) This will print out all of the rpm packages will gtk in the file name This will provide information on the package you are about to install This will rebuild a package if it has been corrupted by another installation process
su	<i>su username</i>	This will allow you to access the Superuser privileges. Type exit to revert back to normal
shutdown	<i>shutdown -t 10.00</i> <i>shutdown -r -t 20.00</i> <i>shutdown -t +10 good day</i> <i>shutdown -f</i>	This will notify all logged in users that the system will shut down at 10:00 AM This will reboot the system at 8:00 PM This will shutdown the system in 10 minutes with the message "good day" sen The -f flag will cause Linux to do a fast reboot
tar	<i>tar -cf /user/dso /home</i> <i>tar cvf /backup.tar /dso</i> <i>tar -xvf file.a.tar</i> <i>tar -tvf file.a.tar more</i> <i>tar -zxvf file.a.tgz</i>	This command copies the directory /home to the directory /user/dso This will create a tar archive of everything in the directory /dso This command will extract the tar archive This will allow you to check whether the tar archive starts with a directory This command will unzip and extract the file in one step as opposed to using gzip
top	<i>M for memory usage information</i> <i>P for CPU information</i>	This program shows a lot of stuff that goes on with your system. In the program, you can type: q to quit
touch	<i>touch file.a</i>	Creates an empty file in the current directory with the name file.
uname	<i>uname -a</i>	This will print to the screen the Linux Kernel in use on your system
updatedb	<i>updatedb</i>	This will update the "locate" database
userdel	<i>userdel -r dsoneil</i>	This will delete the user dsoneil from the system, the -r option will delete the users /home directory
w	<i>w</i>	Lists all users currently logged into the UNIX system. Provides information such as username, login time, idle time, and current action
which	<i>which -a filename</i>	This will search through all directories in your current path and find all files named filename
who	<i>who</i>	Lists currently logged on users username, port, and when they logged in
whoami	<i>whoami</i>	Tells the user who they are acting as; usually their own username.

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