

Unix Reference Card

Unix Commands

Unix commands are case sensitive. The commands must be typed exactly as shown. Commands beginning with a $\hat{}$ (caret) means that before you press the indicated key, you must press and hold down the CONTROL key.

Listing Files/Directories

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|----------------------------------|--|
| <code>ls</code> | list current directory contents |
| <code>ls <i>directory</i></code> | list contents of directory |
| Options: <code>-a</code> | list all files, including hidden (starting with ".") |
| <code>-l</code> | list files with attributes |
| <code>-t</code> | list files chronologically |
| | |
| <code>pwd</code> | show path and name of current directory |

Manipulating Files/Directories

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|--|--------------------------------------|
| <code>less <i>file</i></code> | display file contents |
| <code>more <i>file</i></code> | display file contents |
| <code>cat <i>file</i></code> | display file contents |
| | |
| <code>cp <i>source dest</i></code> | copy source-file to destination-file |
| <code>cp <i>source dest-directory</i></code> | copy source-file to directory |
| <code>rm -i <i>file</i></code> | delete file |
| <code>mv <i>current new</i></code> | rename file |
| <code>mv <i>file directory</i></code> | move file to directory |
| | |
| <code>cd</code> | change to home directory |
| <code>cd ..</code> | change to directory up one level |
| <code>cd <i>directory</i></code> | change to another directory |
| <code>mkdir <i>directory</i></code> | create a directory |
| <code>rmdir <i>directory</i></code> | remove an empty directory |

Other Useful Commands

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| <code>passwd</code> | change password |
| <code>exit</code> | end session |
| <code>clear</code> | clear screen (or \hat{L}) |

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| <code>man <i>command</i></code> | manual page for a command |
| <code>wc <i>file</i></code> | counts words in a file (lines words characters) |
| <code>ispell <i>file</i></code> | interactive spell checker |
| <code>acroread</code> | Acrobat reader (.pdf) |
| <code>bc</code> | basic calculator (quit to exit) |
| <code>date</code> | current date and time |
| <code>cal <i>month year</i></code> | monthly calendar |
| | |
| <code>grep <i>search file</i></code> | look for search-string in a file |
| <code>diff <i>file1 file2</i></code> | compares file1 and file2 and reports the differences |
| <code>file <i>file</i></code> | display the type of file |
| | |
| <code>whoami</code> | display current user |
| <code>which <i>command</i></code> | display a command's pathname |
| | |
| <code>pine</code> | email program with menu interface |
| <code>ftp <i>ftp-address</i></code> | command-line FTP program |
| <code>ssh <i>address</i></code> | securely connect to a remote machine |

gcc Compilation/Options

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| <code>gcc file.c</code> | compile <code>filename.c</code> to executable <code>a.out</code> |
| <code>gcc -o prog file.c</code> | compile <code>filename.c</code> to executable <code>prog</code> |
| <code>gcc file1.c file2.c</code> | compile multiple C files to <code>a.out</code> |
| <code>gcc -o prog file1.c file2.c</code> | compile multiple C files to executable <code>prog</code> |
| <code>gcc -Wall file.c</code> | compile with all warnings turned on |
| <code>gcc -O2 file.c</code> | compile with optimisation and additional error checking |
| <code>gcc -g file.c</code> | compile with debugging information (required by gdb) |
| <code>gcc -O2 -Wall -g -o prog file1.c file2.c</code> | combining all the options |

gdb

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|----------------------------------|---|
| <code>gdb <i>exe</i></code> | run gdb on the executable (compiled with debugging information) |
| <code>gdb <i>exe core</i></code> | run gdb on executable, stop with the state in <code>core</code> |

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