



Linux Command Summary



Release
Version 0.95
25.03.02

Western Linux Users Group
www.westernlug.org

Command	Synopsis	Description
adduser	<i>adduser dsonail</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 -n file.a</i> <i>cat /proc/scsi/scsi</i>	Prints specified file to the screen Moves file.a to file.b This will show the contents of the file with line numbers (-b number only no blank lines) This will list all the SCSI processes running on your system
cd	<i>cd /home/dsonail</i> <i>cd ~username</i>	Changes directories to the specified one This will move you to the users specified home directory
chattr	<i>chattr +i /etc/passwd</i>	makes the named file immutable. Attributes are not shown by ls; use lsattr
chfn	<i>chfn dsonail</i>	This will allow you to change finger information on that user As an example it will allow you to change dsonail 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
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.
cron	<i>crontab -e</i>	Edit your personnel crontab file The main crontab files can be found in the /etc directory
date	<i>date</i> <i>date --date="2001-3-15"</i> <i>date --date="2001-3-15 11:59 AM"</i>	Will output the present date to the screen This will set date to 2001-Mar-15 This will set the date as well as time
dmesg	<i>dmesg</i>	Prints out the bootup messages so you can locate errors
df	<i>df -hT</i>	Displays the total size, used and available space on all mounted file systems
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
e2fsck	<i>e2fsck /dev/fd0</i> <i>e2fsck /dev/hda1</i>	To "scandisk" a floppy (run while the floppy is unmounted) Also can be used to scan for disk errors on hard drive partitions
fc	<i>fc -l</i>	Lists your recent commands (Beware that fc is dangerous w/o -l because it will run commands)
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 its 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 (Use F10 to exit)



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grep	<i>cat /etc/passwd grep dso</i> <i>grep -i "Sample" /home/dsoneil</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.qz</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
history	<i>history grep sneak</i> <i>history -d 1061</i>	To retrieve your recent commands with "sneak" somewhere in them. 6/00 To delete history entry 1061, which may be a password in cleartext.
hostname		Get or set hostname. Typically, the host name is stored in the file /etc/HOSTNAME.
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
rpm2tgz	<i>rpm2tgz 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
ipchains	<i>ipchains [-A -s -d -j] [Input / Output]</i> <i>ipchains -A input -s 24.1.50.25 -j DENY</i> <i>ipchains -A output -d 24.1.50.2 -j DENY</i>	This command is used to ACCEPT or DENY access to your system This will block the IP address 24.1.50.25 from accessing your system This command will DENY your system from accessing this IP address [-A append] [-s source] [-d destination] [-j join]
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
lilo	<i>lilo -v</i> <i>lilo -b /dev/fd0</i>	To write or correct boot config to disk. Use this comand after modifying /etc/lilo.conf Do this before rebooting (to avoid "LIL-" on startup) if it's been a while This command will make a boot disk
ln	<i>ln -s /usr/dso /home/html</i>	Creates a "symbolic" 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 aand 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 pint 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> <i>ls /proc/sys/net/ipv4</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/ @) This will ist all IP4 (masquerading) entries in the system processes directories
lspci	<i>lspci</i>	Lists your PCI devices
lsof	<i>lsof grep :<port number></i>	This will show you what program has that port open.
lsmod		used (by root) to show kernel modules currently loaded
make	<i>make mrproper</i> <i>make menuconfig</i> <i>make dep</i> <i>make clean</i> <i>make bzImage</i> <i>make lnx</i> <i>make install</i> <i>make modules</i> <i>make modules_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 use 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 This will compile all the necessary modules This will install modules into the /lib/modules directory



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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.
md5sum	<i>md5sum filename.tgz</i>	To ensure a copy between machines went perfectly
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
netstat	<i>netstat -tap grep LISTEN</i> <i>netstat -t -u -a</i>	This will give us a list of all currently running TCP servers that are LISTENing on a port This will list all UDP and TCP ports that are open
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
nmap	<i>nmap localhost</i> <i>nmap -sT -sU -p 1-65535 localhost</i>	This will port scan the 'localhost' server to determine open ports This will thoroughly check all ports on the system (both UDP and TCP)
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.
renice	<i>renice -5 6641</i>	Adjusts the priority of the running process 6641 (The 5 lowers the priority to use less resources)
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 (if supported)
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 -f 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" sent The -f flag will cause Linux to do a fast reboot
sort	<i>sort myfile</i>	To sort files. (Options -r Reverse normal order, -n Sort in numeric order)
tar	<i>tar -cf /usr/dso.tar /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 file /user/dso.tar 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



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top	<i>M for memory usage information 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
umask	<i>umask -S u=rw,g=,o= umask 022</i>	Specify the permission for files when files are created for owner(u),group(g), and others(o) you can use 022 for read only file permission for others and 077 for read and write permission
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
uptime	<i>uptime -a 192.168.0.100</i>	Shows system uptime and includes a list of users who have been idle for more than one hour
userdel	<i>userdel -r dsoneil</i>	This will delete the user dsoneil from the system, the -r option will delete the users /home
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
whatis	<i>whatis cat</i>	Provides a one-line summary of the command
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.

Other Useful Commands

Ctrl-Alt-F1: installation dialog

Ctrl-Alt-F2: shell prompt

Ctrl-Alt-F3: install log

Ctrl-Alt-F4: system related messages

Ctrl-Alt-F5: other messages

Ctrl-Alt-F7: X graphical display

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