

UNIX/Linux CSSE Department Quick Reference to Unix Commands

alias List the ALIASES in use
alias name def Assign a name to a command *definition*

apropos keyword Locate commands by *keyword lookup*

cal DISPLAY a CALENDAR for the current month

cat filename DISPLAY *filename*
cat filename1 filename2 > filename 3
CONCATENATE (combine) *filename1* and *filename2* into *filename 3*

cd CHANGE the current working DIRECTORY to login/home directory
cd directory CHANGE current DIRECTORY to *directory*
cd .. CHANGE DIRECTORY to parent directory (..)

chmod modespecs filename
CHANGE protection MODE of files;
modespecs: u=user; o=other, g=group;
-= delete; +=add; r=read; w=write; x=execute

cmp filename1 filename2
COMPARE (binaries) *filename1* and *filename2*

clear clears the screen

cp filename1 filename 2
COPY *filename 1* to *filename 2*
cp filename . COPY *filename* to current directory

date SHOW current TIME and DATE
diff filename1 filename2
SHOW the DIFFERENCES between *filename1* and *filename2*

du DISPLAY DISK USAGE (in kilobytes)

emacs filename Invoke EMACS editor opening *filename*

fg foreground; restore suspended processes

finger username Look up information about user *username*

grep keyword filename
Search for occurrences of *keyword* in *filename*

gzip filename COMPRESS *filename*
gunzip filename UNCOMPRESS *filename*

history SHOW HISTORY of entered commands

kill pid# TERMINATE or kill a PROCESS *pid#*

logout Logout or EXIT from the system

lpr -P printer filename PRINT *filename* to *printer*
lpq -P printer LIST PRINT JOBS in *printer* queue
lprm -P printer job # REMOVE PRINT JOB *job#* from queue

lpstat -v Display list of printer names
ls LIST contents of directory
ls -al Produce a LONG LISTING OF ALL FILES
ls directory LIST files in directory *directory*

man command DISPLAY HELP for *command*

mkdir directory MAKE a DIRECTORY named *directory*

more filename View *filename* on the screen, one page at a time. Press space bar for next page; RETURN for next line; q to quit

mv filename1 filename 2
MOVE or rename *filename1* to *filename2*

passwd CHANGE YOUR PASSWORD

ps DISPLAY the status of your PROCESSES

pwd PRINT pathname of current directory

quota -v DISPLAY your DISK QUOTA and usage

rm filename REMOVE *filename*
rmdir directory REMOVE DIRECTORY *directory*

script Makes file named *typescript* of a terminal session. EXIT stops scripting.

sort filename SORT *filename* in ASCII sequence

spell filename CHECK *filename* for SPELLING errors

vi filename invoke vi editor opening *filename*

w LIST the users WHO are on the system currently and what they are doing

wc filename Display a COUNT of WORDS, lines and characters for *filename*

who LIST WHO IS currently ON THE SYSTEM
whoami DISPLAY WHO YOU ARE