

Command-Line Tools & Utilities Cheatsheet

A quick reference guide to essential command-line tools and utilities, covering file manipulation, process management, networking, and system information.



File Management

Basic Operations

ls	List directory contents.
pwd	Print working directory.
cd <directory></directory>	Change directory.
mkdir <directory></directory>	Create a new directory.
rm <file></file>	Remove a file.
rmdir <directory></directory>	Remove an empty directory.
cp <source/> <destination></destination>	Copy a file or directory.
mv <source/> <destination></destination>	Move or rename a file or directory.
touch <file></file>	Create an empty file or update timestamp.

Advanced File Operations

find <directory> -name <pattern></pattern></directory>	Find files matching a pattern.
<pre>grep <pattern> <file></file></pattern></pre>	Search for a pattern in a file.
head <file></file>	Display the first few lines of a file.
tail <file></file>	Display the last few lines of a file.
wc <file></file>	Count words, lines, and bytes in a file.
<pre>chmod <permissions> <file></file></permissions></pre>	Change file permissions.
<pre>chown <user>:<group> <file></file></group></user></pre>	Change file owner and group.
<pre>tar -czvf <archive_name>.tar.gz <directory></directory></archive_name></pre>	Compress a directory into a tar.gz archive.
tar -xzvf <archive_name>.tar.gz</archive_name>	Extract a tar.gz archive.

Process Management

Process Information

ps	Display a snapshot of current processes.
top	Display dynamic real-time view of running processes.
htop	Interactive process viewer.
pidof <process_name></process_name>	Find the process ID of a running process.
pgrep <pattern></pattern>	Find processes by name or other attributes.
pstree	Display a tree of processes.

Process Control

kill <pid></pid>	Terminate a process.
kill -9 <pid></pid>	Forcefully terminate a process (SIGKILL).
pkill <pattern></pattern>	Kill processes by name or other attributes.
nohup <command/> &	Run a command immune to hangups, with output to nohup.out.
bg	Move a process to the background.
fg	Move a process to the foreground.
jobs	List active jobs.

Networking

Network Information

ifconfig	Display network interface configuration.
ip addr	Display IP addresses.
netstat -tulnp	Display listening ports and associated processes.
ss -tulnp	Another utility to display socket statistics.
ping <host></host>	Test network connectivity.
<pre>traceroute <host></host></pre>	Trace the route packets take to a host.
dig <domain></domain>	DNS lookup utility.
nslookup <domain></domain>	Query DNS servers to obtain domain name or IP address mapping.

Network Tools

curl <url></url>	Transfer data from or to a server.
wget <url></url>	Download files from the web.
ssh <user>@<host></host></user>	Secure Shell client for remote login.
scp <source/> <destination></destination>	Securely copy files between hosts.
nc -1 -p <port></port>	Netcat listener on a port.
nc <host> <port></port></host>	Netcat client connecting to a host and port.

System Information

Hardware Information

lscpu	Display CPU architecture information.
lsblk	List block devices.
lspci	List PCI devices.
lsusb	List USB devices.
free -m	Display memory usage.

System Status

uname -a	Display system information.
uptime	Show how long the system has been running.
df -h	Display disk space usage.
du -sh <directory></directory>	Display the disk usage of a directory.
W	Show who is logged on and what they are doing.
last	Show listing of last logged in users.
date	Display the current date and time.

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