

Bash Reference Sheet

File Commands

directory listing	ls
formatted listing with hidden files	ls -al
change directory to <i>dir</i>	cd dir
change to home	cd
show current directory	pwd
create directory <i>dir</i>	mkdir dir
delete <i>file</i>	rm file
delete directory <i>dir</i>	rm -r dir
force remove <i>file</i>	rm -f file
force remove directory <i>dir</i>	rm -rf dir
copy <i>file1</i> to <i>file2</i>	cp file1 file2
copy <i>dir1</i> to <i>dir2</i> ; create <i>dir2</i> if it doesn't exist	cp -r dir1 dir2
rename/move <i>file1</i> to <i>file2</i> . If <i>file2</i> is existing directory, moves <i>file1</i> into directory <i>file2</i>	mv file1 file2
create symbolic link <i>link</i> to <i>file</i>	ln -s file link
create or update <i>file</i>	touch file
places standard input into <i>file</i>	cat > file
output contents of <i>file</i>	more file
output the first 10 lines of <i>file</i>	head file
output the last 10 lines of <i>file</i>	tail file
output the contents of file as it grows, starting with the last 10 lines	tail -f file

Process Management

display your currently active processes	ps
display all running processes	top
kill process id <i>pid</i>	kill pid
kill all processes named <i>proc</i>	kill proc
lists stopped or background jobs; resume a stopped job in the background	bg
brings the most recent job to foreground	fg
brings job <i>n</i> to the foreground	fg n

File Permissions

chmod octal file – change the permissions of *file* to *octal*, which can be found separately for user, group, and world by adding:

- 4 – read (r)
- 2 – write (w)
- 1 – execute (x)

Examples:

chmod 777 – read, write, execute for all

chmod 755 – rwx for owner, rx for group and world

For more options, see **man chmod**.

SSH

connect to <i>host</i> as <i>user</i>	ssh user@host
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Searching

search for <i>pat</i> in <i>files</i>	grep pat files
search recursively for <i>pat</i> in <i>dir</i>	grep -r pat dir
search for <i>pat</i> in output of <i>com</i>	com grep pat
find all instances of <i>file</i>	locate file

System Info

show the current date and time	date
show kernel information	uname -a
show the manual for <i>command</i>	man command
show disk usage	df
show directory space usage	du
show possible locations of <i>app</i>	whereis app
show which <i>app</i> will be run by default	which app

Compression

create a tar named <i>file.tar</i> containing <i>files</i>	tar cf file.tar files
extract the files from <i>file.tar</i>	tar xf file.tar
create tar named <i>file.tar.gz</i> containing <i>files</i> with Gzip compression	tar czf file.tar.gz files
extract a tar using Gzip	tar xzf file.tar.gz
create a tar with Bzip2 compression	tar cjf file.tar.bz2 files
extract a tar using Bzip2	tar xjf file.tar.bz2
compress <i>file</i> and renames it to <i>file.gz</i>	gzip file
decompress <i>file.gz</i> back to <i>file</i>	gzip -d file.gz

Network

ping <i>host</i> and output results	ping host
download <i>file</i>	wget file
continue a stopped download	wget -c file

Shortcuts

halt the current command	Ctrl+C
Suspends the current command	Ctrl+Z
erase current line	Ctrl+U
show previous commands	Up arrow
repeat the last command	!!
log out of current session	exit

Environment (bash)

show all current environment variables and values	printenv
show current value of environment variable <i>VAR</i>	printenv VAR
set environment variable <i>VAR</i> to <i>value</i>	export VAR=value