

UNIX

// Systems Administration Reference //

A

alias	Command line alias
aspell	Check/correct spelling
at	Set time to run job
awk	Find and replace text

B

basename	Find last part of a file path
bg	Run job in the background
break	Break out of loop
builtin	Execute builtin shell function
bzip2	Run file compression script

C

cal	Calendar
case	Evaluate value and branch
cat	Display text content of file
cd	Change directory
cdrecord	Write to optical disc
fdisk	Partition volume
chfn	Change finger information
chsh	Switch shell
chgrp	Change owner group of file
chmod	Edit file/directory permissions
chown	Change owner of file/directory
chroot	Execute command from root directory
cksum	Generate checksum
clear	Clear terminal screen
cmp	Compare files
comm	Compare text files by content
command	Execute command without shell function
continue	Resume loop
cp	Copy file
crontab	Run routine job
csplit	Split file
curl	Show contents at URL
cut	Extract text from file

D

date	Show date and time
dc	Desk Calculator
dd	Data dump to file
declare	Declare variables
df	Show free disk space
diff	Compare files
diff3	Compare three files
dir	List directory contents
dircolors	Change colour settings for directory list
dirname	Remove last part of file path
dirs	List recorded directories
do	Specify command to run in loop
done	End of looped commands
du	Estimate disk usage

E

echo	Output to standard display
ed	Open text editor
egrep	Search files for a regular expression
eject	Open/Close disc tray
else	Execute alternative statement
elif	Execute Else/If statement
enable	Enable builtin commands
env	Set shell environment variables
eval	Evaluate statement
exec	Execute command and exit shell
exit	Exit terminal session
expand	Convert tabs to spaces
export	Set environment variable value
expr	Evaluate expression

F

factor	Output prime factors of a number
false	Set exit status to non-zero value
fdformat	Floppy disk format

fdisk	Format volume
fg	Run job in foreground
file	Show file type
finger	Output user information
fgrep	Search files for matching statement
find	Search for a file
fmt	Format text paragraph
fold	Resize text to fit width
for	Set parameters for loop
format	Format volume
free	Show free disk volume space
fsck	File System Consistency Check
ftp	Transfer files over FTP
function	Define function

G

gawk	Find and replace text within file
getopts	Check parameters
grep	Search files for specified pattern
groups	Output list of groups user is assigned to
groupadd	Add new user group
groupdel	Remove group
groupmod	Modify group
gzip	gzip file compression

H

hash	Record full file path
head	Output first part of file
history	Output session history
hostname	Output system name

I

id	List user and group IDs
if	Conditional test
ifconfig	Output network interface settings
init	Set the system run level
info	Output help information

install Copy and install files

J

jobs List jobs

join Join text lines

K

kill Terminate process

L

last Output login history

less Output file content by page

let Perform arithmetic operation

ln Link between files

local Create local variable

logname Output login name

logout Log out of session

look List words with specified prefix

lpc Line Printer Control

lpq List print queue

lpr Offline print

lprm Remove job from print queue

lpstat Output line printer status

ls List files within current directory

M

m4 Macro processor

mail Retrieve mail

man Output manual page

md5sum Generate check sum

mesg Enable/Disable messaging

mkdir Create directory

mkfifo Create File-In FileOut

mknod Create block character files

more Output file by screen

mount Mount filesystem volume

mt Tape backup system control

mtools MS-DOS filesystem tools
mv Move or rename a file or directory

N

nice Set priority of job
nl Output file text and line numbers
nohup Ignore hang signals

P

passwd Change password
paste Paste text
pathchk Check file name
ping Send request to remote systems
popd Restore previous value of the directory
pr Prepare file for printing
printenv Output environment variables
printf Format and print
ps Output process status
pushd Save and change directory
pwd Output current directory path

R

rcp Remote file copy
read Read line of input
readonly Set variable as read only
renice Change priority of job
return Exit shell function
rm Remove file
rmdir Remove directory
rpm Remote Package Manager
rsync Synchronise files with remote host

S

scp Secure file copy
screen Open terminal window manager
sdiff Merge two files
sed Input Stream editor
select Accept keyboard input

seq	Output number sequence in range
set	Set variables and functions
sftp	Secure FTP
shift	Shift parameters
shopt	Shell options
shutdown	Reboot system
sleep	Pause
sort	Display text lines in alphabetical order
source	Run commands from file
split	Split file
ssh	Secure session to remote host
su	Switch user
stat	List file stats
sum	Output check sum for file
suspend	Suspend job
sync	Synchronise data between disk and memory

T

tac	Output file in reverse order
tail	Output last section of file
tar	Archive program
tee	Output to multiple files
test	Test expression
time	Output resource usage and session time
times	Output total system usage times
touch	Change timestamp of file
top	List running processes
traceroute	Trace network route to host
trap	Run command on signal
tr	Translate characters
true	Set exit status to zero
tsort	Sort input
tty	Show terminal name
type	Describe command

U

ulimit	Set limit for user resources
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umask	Set permission defaults
umount	Unmount volume
unalias	Remove alias
uname	Output system and user name
unexpand	Convert spaces to tabs
uniq	Remove identical lines of text
unset	Remove variable
until	Run loop until
uptime	Show total uptime
unzip	Uncompress file
useradd	Add user account
userdel	Remove user account
usermod	Modify user account
users	List currently active users

V

vdir	List directories
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W

w	Show running processes for each user
watch	Execute program at set periods
wc	Word count for text file
wget	Download and store web site
whereis	Report command usage
which	Find path for file within home directory
while	Execute conditional command
who	Output names of active users
whoami	Show current login name
write	Send message to other user on system

X

xargs	Execute constructed arguments
xcalc	X Calculator
xclock	X Clock
xload	Graphical load monitor

Y

yes	Output string
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Z

zcat Compress file

zip Compress file