Linux Commands

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gvfs-set-attribute /path/to/folder metadata::custom-icon file:///path/to/image

Command Description

cat [filename]
Display file’s contents to the standard output device (usually your monitor).

cd /directorypath
Change to directory.

chmod [options] mode filename
Change a file’s permissions.

chown [options] filename
Change who owns a file.

clear
Clear a command line screen/window for a fresh start.

cp [options] source destination
Copy files and directories.

date [options]
Display or set the system date and time.

df [options]
Display used and available disk space.

du [options]
Show how much space each file takes up.

file [options] filename
Determine what type of data is within a file.

find [pathname] [expression]
Search for files matching a provided pattern.

grep [options] pattern [filesname]
Search files or output for a particular pattern.

kill [options] pid
Stop a process. If the process refuses to stop, use kill -9 pid.

less [options] [filename]
View the contents of a file one page at a time.

ln [options] source [destination]
Create a shortcut.

locate filename
Search a copy of your filesystem for the specified filename.

lpr [options]
Send a print job.

ls [options]
List directory contents.

man [command]
Display the help information for the specified command.

mkdir [options] directory
Create a new directory.

mv [options] source destination
Rename or move file(s) or directories.

passwd [name [password]]
Change the password or allow (for the system administrator) to change any password.

ps [options]
Display a snapshot of the currently running processes.

pwd
Display the pathname for the current directory.

rm [options] directory
Remove (delete) file(s) and/or directories.

rmdir [options] directory
Delete empty directories.

ssh [options] user@machine
Remotely log in to another Linux machine, over the network. Leave an ssh session by typing exit.

su [options] [user [arguments]]
Switch to another user account.

tail [options] [filename]
Display the last n lines of a file (the default is 10).

tar [options] filename
Store and extract files from a tarfile (.tar) or tarball (.tar.gz or .tgz).

top
Displays the resources being used on your system. Press q to exit.

touch filename
Create an empty file with the specified name.

who [options]
Display who is logged on.

-sudo permission

Linux Command Quick Reference

The following list describes some of the most useful and popular Linux commands. Consult the man page for each command to learn about additional arguments and details of operation.

adduser userid
Creates a new userid, prompting for necessary information (requires root privileges).

apropos keyword
Searches the manual pages for occurrences of the specified keyword and prints short descriptions from the beginning of matching manual pages.

at time at -f file time
Executes commands entered via stdin (or, by using the alternative form, the specified file) at the specified time. The time can be specified in a variety of ways; for example, in hour and minute format hh: mm or in hour, minute, month, day, and year format hh: mm mm/ dd/ yy.

atq
Prints descriptions of jobs pending via the at command.

atrm job
Cancels execution of a job scheduled via the at command. Use the atq command to discover the identities of scheduled jobs.

bg bg jobs
Places the current job (or, by using the alternative form, the specified jobs) in the background, suspending its execution so that a new user prompt appears immediately. Use the jobs command to discover the identities of background jobs.

cal month year
Prints a calendar for the specified month of the specified year.

cat files
Prints the contents of the specified files.

cd cd directory
Changes the current working directory to the user's home directory or the specified directory.

chgrp group files chgrp -R group files
Changes the group of the specified files to the specified group. The alternative form of the command operates recursively, changing the group of subdirectories and files beneath a specified directory. The group must be named in the /etc/groups file, maintained by the newgroup command.

chmod mode files chmod -R mode files
Changes the access mode of the specified files to the specified mode. The alternative form of the command operates recursively, changing the mode of subdirectories and files beneath a specified directory.

chown userid files chown -R userid files
Changes the owner of the specified files to the specified userid. The alternative form of the command operates recursively, changing the owner of subdirectories and files beneath a specified directory

clear
Clears the terminal screen.

cmp file1 file2
Compares two files, reporting all discrepancies. Similar to the diff command, though the output format differs.

cp file1 file2 cp files directory cp -R files directory
Copies a file to another file or directory, or copies a subdirectory and all its files to another directory.

date date date
Displays the current date and time or changes the system date and time to the specified value, of the form MMddhhmmyy or MMddhhmmyyyy.

df
Prints the amount of free disk space on each mounted filesystem.

diff file1 file2
Compares two files, reporting all discrepancies. Similar to the cmp command, though the output format differs.

dmesg
Prints the messages resulting from the most recent system boot.

du du directories
Prints the amount of disk space used by the current directory (or the specified directories) and its (their) subdirectories.

echo string echo -n string
Prints the specified text on the standard output stream. The -n option causes omission of the trailing newline character.

fdformat device
Formats the media inserted in the specified floppy disk drive. The command performs a low-level format only; it does

not create a filesystem. To create a filesystem, issue the mkfs command after formatting the media.

fdisk device
Edits the partition table of the specified hard disk.

fg fg jobs
Brings the current job (or the specified jobs) to the foreground.

file files
Determines and prints a description of the type of each specified file.

find path -name pattern -print
Searches the specified path for files with names matching the specified pattern (usually enclosed in single quotes) and prints their names. The find command has many other arguments and functions; see the online documentation.

finger users
Prints descriptions of the specified users.

free
Displays the amount of used and free system memory.

ftp hostname
Opens an FTP connection to the specified host, allowing files to be transferred. The FTP program provides subcommands for accomplishing file transfers; see the online documentation.

grep pattern files grep -i pattern files grep -n pattern files grep -v pattern files
Search the specified files for text matching the specified pattern (usually enclosed in single quotes) and print matching lines. The -i option specifies that matching is performed without regard to case. The -n option specifies that each line of output is preceded by the file name and line number. The -v option reverses the matching, causing non-matched lines to be printed.

gzip files gunzip files
Compress (or expand) the specified files. Generally, a compressed file has the same name as the original file, followed by . gz.

head files
Prints the first several lines of each specified file.

hostname hostname name
Displays (or sets) the name of the host.

info
Launches the GNU Texinfo help system.

init run_level
Changes the system run level to the specified value (requires root privileges).

insmod module
Dynamically loads the specified module (requires root privileges).

jobs
Displays all background jobs.

ispell files
Checks the spelling of the contents of the specified files.

kill process_ids kill - signal process_ids kill -l
Kills the specified processes, sends the specified processes the specified signal (given as a number or name), or prints a list of available signals.

killall program killall - signal program
Kills all processes that are instances of the specified program or sends the specified signal to all processes that are instances of the specified program.

ln old new ln -s old new
Creates a hard (or soft) link associating a new name with an existing file or directory.

locate pattern
Locates files with names containing the specified pattern. Uses the database maintained by the updatedb command.

lpq
Prints the entries of the print queue.

lpr files
Prints the specified files.

lprm job
Cancels printing of the specified print queue entries. Use lpq to determine the contents of the print queue.

ls ls files ls -a files ls -l files ls -lR files
Lists (non-hidden) files in the current directory or the specified files or directories. The -a option lists hidden files as well has non-hidden files. The -l option causes the list to include descriptive information, such as file size and modification date. The -R option recursively lists the subdirectories of the specified directories.

mail
Launches a simple mail client that permits sending and receiving email messages.

man title man section title
Prints the specified man page.

mkdir directories mkdir -p directories
Creates the specified directories. The -p option causes creation of any parent directories needed to create a specified directory.

mkfs -t type device
Creates a file system of the specified type (such as ext2 or msdos) on the specified device (requires root privileges).

mkswap device
Creates a Linux swap space on the specified hard disk partition (requires root privileges).

more file
Lets the user peruse a file too large to be displayed as a single screen (page) of output. The more command provides many subcommands that let the user navigate the file. For example, the Space key moves forward one page, the b key moves back one page, and the q key exits the program.

mount mount device directory mount -o option -t type device directory
Prints the mounted devices or mounts the specified device at the specified mount point (generally a subdirectory of /mnt). The mount command consults /etc/fstab to determine standard options associated with a device. The command generally requires root privileges. The -o option allows specification of a variety of options; for example, ro for read-only access. The -t option allows specification of the filesystem type (for example, ext2, msdos, or iso9660, the filesystem type generally used for CD-ROMs).

mv paths target
Moves the specified files or directories to the specified target.

newgroup group
Creates the specified group.

passwd passwd user
Changes the current user's password, or that of the specified user (requires root privileges). The command prompts for

the new password.

ping host
Sends an echo request via TCP/IP to the specified host. A response confirms that the host is operational.

pr files
Formats the specified files for printing, by inserting page breaks and so on. The command provides many arguments and functions.

ps ps -Aux
Displays the processes associated with the current userid or displays a description of each process.

pwd
Prints the absolute path corresponding to the current working directory.

reboot
Reboots the system (requires root privileges).

reset
Clears the terminal screen and resets the terminal status.

rm files rm -i files rm -f files rm -if files rm -rf files
Deletes the specified files or (when the -r option is specified) recursively deletes all subdirectories of the specified files and directories. The -i option causes the command to prompt for confirmation; the -f option suppresses confirmation. Because deleted files cannot generally be recovered, the -f option should be used only with extreme care, particularly when used by the root user.

rmdir directories rmdir -p directories
Deletes the specified empty directories or (when the -p option is specified) the empty directories along the specified path.

shutdown minutes shutdown -r minutes
Shuts down the system after the specified number of minutes elapses (requires root privileges). The -r option causes the system to be rebooted once it has shut down.

sleep time
Causes the command interpreter to pause for the specified number of seconds.

sort files
Sorts the specified files. The command has many useful arguments; see the online documentation.

split file
Splits a file into several smaller files. The command has many arguments; see the online documentation.

su su user su - su - user
Changes the current userid to root or to the specified userid (the latter requires root privileges). The - option establishes a default environment for the new userid.

swapon device
Enables use of the specified device for swapping (requires root privileges).

swapoff device
Disables use of the specified device for swapping (requires root privileges).

sync
Completes all pending input/output operations (requires root privileges).

tail file tail - n file tail -f file
Prints the last several lines of the specified files. The -n option specifies the number of lines to be printed. The -f option causes the command to continuously print additional lines as they are written to the file.

talk user
Launches a program that allows a chat-like dialog with the specified user.

tar cvf tar_file files tar zcvf tar_file files
Creates a tar file with the specified name, containing the specified files and their subdirectories. The z option specified that the tar file will be compressed.

tar xvf tar_file tar zxvf tar_file
Extracts the contents of the specified tar file. The z option specified that the tar file has been compressed.

telnet host
Opens a login session on the specified host.

top
Prints a display of system processes that's continually updated until the user presses the q key.

traceroute host
Uses echo requests to determine and print a network path to the host.

umount device
Unmounts the specified filesystem (generally requires root privileges).

uptime
Prints the system uptime.

w
Prints the current system users.

wall
Prints a message to each user except those who've disabled message reception. Type Ctrl-D to end the message.

wc files
Prints the number of characters, words, and lines in the specified files.

Table E.1 identifies Linux commands that perform functions similar to MS-DOS commands. The operation of the Linux command is not generally identical to that of the corresponding MS-DOS command. See the index to this book or the Linux online documentation for further information about Linux commands.

Table E.1: MS-DOS Commands and Related Linux Commands

MS-DOS

Linux

ATTRIB

chmod

CD

cd

CHKDSK

df, du

DELTREE

rm -R

DIR

ls -l

DOSKEY

(built-in; no need to launch separately)

EDIT

ae, vi, and so on

EXTRACT

tar

FC

cmp, diff

FDISK

fdisk

FIND

grep

FORMAT

fdformat

MORE

more

MOVE

mv

SORT

sort

START

at, bg

XCOPY, XCOPY32

cp

Command Description

a2p
Creates a Perl script from an awk script.

ac
Prints statistics about users' connect time.

access
Checks real user's permissions for a file.

agrep
Version of the grep utility which also matches approximate patterns.

alias
Create a name for another command or long command string.

apropos
Searches the manual pages for a keyword or regular expression.

apt-cache
Queries the APT software package cache.

apt-get
Command line tool for working with APT software packages.

aptitude
Text-based front-end for the APT package management system.

ar
Maintain portable archive or library.

arch
Display the architecture of the current host.

arp
Manipulate the system ARP cache.

as
An assembler.

aspell
Interactive spell checker.

at
Command scheduler.

awk
Awk script processing program.

basename
Deletes any specified prefix from a string.

bash
Command Bourne interpreter

bc
Calculator.

bdiff
Compare large files.

bfs
Editor for large files.

bg
Continues a program running in the background.

biff
Enable and disable incoming mail notifications.

break
Break out of while, for, foreach, or until loop.

bs
Battleship game.

bye
Alias often used for the exit command.

cal
Calendar.

calendar
Display appointments and reminders.

cancel
Cancels a print job.

cat
View or modify a file.

cc
C compiler.

cd
Change directory.

chdir
Change directory.

checkeq
Language processors to assist in describing equations.

checknr
Check nroff and troff files for any errors.

chfn
Modify your own information or if super user or root modify another users information.

chgrp
Change a groups access to a file or directory.

chkey
Change the secure RPC key pair.

chmod
Change the permission of a file.

chown
Change the ownership of a file.

chroot
Run a command or shell from another directory, and treats that directory as root.

chsh
Change login shell.

cksum
Display and calculate a CRC for files.

clear
Clears screen.

cls
Alias often used to clear a screen.

cmp
Compare files.

col
Reverse line-feeds filter.

comm
Compare files and select or reject lines that are common.

compress
Compress files on a computer.

continue
Break out of while, for, foreach, or until loop.

copy
Copy files.

cp
Copy files.

cpio
Creates archived CPIO files.

crontab
Create and list files that you wish to run on a regular schedule.

crypt
Function used to encrypt passwords.

csh
Execute the C shell command interpreter

csplit
Split files based on context.

ctags
Create a tag file for use with ex and vi.

cu
Calls or connects to another Unix system, terminal or non-Unix system.

curl
Transfer a URL.

cut
Cut out selected fields of each line of a file.

date
Tells you the date and time in Unix.

dc
An arbitrary precision arithmetic package.

dd
Convert and copy a file.

df
Display the available disk space for each mount.

depmod
Generates a list of kernel module dependences, modules.dep, and associated map files.

deroff
Removes nroff/troff, tbl, and eqn constructs.

dhclient
Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol Client.

diff
Displays two files and prints the lines that are different.

dig
DNS lookup utility.

dircmp
Lists the different files when comparing directories.

dirname
Deliver portions of path names.

dmesg
Print or control the kernel ring buffer.

dos2unix
Converts text files between DOS and Unix formats.

dpkg
Queries, installs, removes, and maintains Debian software packages and their dependencies.

dpost
Translates files created by troff into PostScript.

du
Tells you how much space a file occupies.

echo
Displays text after echo to the terminal.

ed
Line oriented file editor.

edit
Text editor.

egrep
Search a file for a pattern using full regular expressions.

eject
Ejects removable media.

elm
Program command used to send and receive e-mail.

emacs
Text editor.

enable
Enables and disables LP printers.

env
Displays environment variables.

eqn
Language processors to assist in describing equations.

ex
Line-editor mode of the vi text editor.

exit
Exit from a program, shell or log you out of a Unix network.

expand
Expand copies of file s.

expr
Evaluate arguments as an expression.

fc
The FC utility lists or edits and re-executes, commands previously entered to an interactive sh.

fg
Continues a stopped job by running it in the foreground

fgrep
Search a file for a fixed-character string.

file
Tells you if the object you are looking at is a file or if it is a directory.

find
Finds one or more files assuming that you know their approximate filenames.

findsmb
List info about machines that respond to SMB name queries on a subnet.

finger
Lists information about the user.

fmt
Simple text formatters.

fold
Filter for folding lines.

for
Shell built-in functions to repeatedly execute action(s) for a selected number of times.

foreach
Shell built-in functions to repeatedly execute action(s) for a selected number of times.

free
Display amount of free and used memory in the system

fromdos
Converts text files between DOS and Unix formats.

fsck
Check and repair a Linux file system.

ftp
Enables ftp access to another terminal.

fuser
Identify processes using files or sockets.

gawk
Powerful pattern-matching and processing language.

getfacl
Display discretionary file information.

gethostname
System call to get the hostname of the current processor.

gpasswd
Administer /etc/group and /etc/gshadow.

gprof
The gprof utility produces an execution profile of a program.

grep
Finds text within a file.

groupadd
Creates a new group account.

groupdel
Enables a super user or root to remove a group.

groupmod
Enables a super user or root to modify a group.

gunzip
Expand compressed files.

gview
A programmers text editor.

gvim
A programmers text editor.

gzip
Compress files.

halt
Stop the computer.

hash
Remove internal hash table.

hashstat
Display the hash stats.

head
Displays the first ten lines of a file, unless otherwise stated.

help
If computer has online help documentation installed this command will display it.

history
Display the history of commands typed.

host
DNS lookup utility.

hostid
Prints the numeric identifier for the current host.

hostname
Set or print name of current host system.

id
Shows you the numeric user and group ID on BSD.

ifconfig
Sets up network interfaces.

ifdown
Take a network interface down.

ifup
Bring a network interface up.

info
Read Info documents.

init
Process control initialization.

iostat
Reports Central Processing Unit (CPU) statistics and input/output statistics for devices and partitions.

ip
Show and manipulate routing, devices, policy routing and tunnels.

isalist
Display the native instruction sets executable on this platform.

iwconfig
Configure a wireless network interface.

jobs
List the jobs currently running in the background.

join
Joins command forms together.

keylogin
Decrypt the user's secret key.

kill
Cancels a job.

killall
Kills processes by name.

ksh
Korn shell command interpreter.

ld
Link-editor for object files.

ldd
List dynamic dependencies of executable files or shared objects.

less
Opposite of the more command.

lex
Generate programs for lexical tasks.

link
Calls the link function to create a link to a file.

ln
Creates a link to a file.

lo
Allows you to exit from a program, shell or log you out of a Unix network.

locate
List files in databases that match a pattern.

login
Signs into a new system.

logname
Returns users login name.

logout
Logs out of a system.

losetup
Sets up and controls loop devices.

lp
Prints a file on System V systems.

lpadmin
Configure the LP print service.

lpc
Line printer control program.

lpq
Lists the status of all the available printers.

lpr
Submits print requests.

lprm
Removes print requests from the print queue.

lpstat
Lists status of the LP print services.

ls
Lists the contents of a directory.

lsof
Lists open files.

lzcat
View compressed .lzma files.

lzma
Compress files to .lzma file.

mach
Display the processor of the current host.

mail
One of the ways that allows you to read/send E-Mail.

mailcompat
Provide SunOS 4.x compatibility for the Solaris mailbox format.

mailx
Mail interactive message processing system.

make
Executes a list of shell commands associated with each target.

man
Display a manual of a command.

mesg
Control if non-root users can send text messages to you.

mii-tool
View, manipulate media-independent interface status.

mkdir
Create a directory.

mkfs
Build a Linux file system, usually a hard disk partition.

modprobe
Adds and removes modules from the linux kernel.

more
Displays text one screen at a time.

mount
Creates a file systems and remote resources.

mt
Magnetic tape control.

mv
Renames a file or moves it from one directory to another directory.

nc
TCP/IP swiss army knife.

neqn
Language processors to assist in describing equations.

netstat
Shows network status.

newalias
Install new elm aliases for user or system.

newform
Change the format of a text file.

newgrp
Log into a new group.

nice
Invokes a command with an altered scheduling priority.

niscat
Display NIS+ tables and objects.

nischmod
Change access rights on a NIS+ object.

nischown
Change the owner of a NIS+ object.

nischttl
Change the time to live value of a NIS+ object.

nisdefaults
Display NIS+ default values.

nisgrep
Utilities for searching NIS+ tables.

nismatch
Utilities for searching NIS+ tables.

nispasswd
Change NIS+ password information.

nistbladm
NIS+ table administration command.

nl
Get the numbers the lines in a file.

nmap
Network exploration tool and security port scanner.

nohup
Runs a command even if the session is disconnected or the user logs out.

nroff
Formats documents for display or line-printer.

nslookup
Queries a name server for a host or domain lookup.

od
Dump files in octal and other formats.

on
Execute a command on a remote system, but with the local environment.

onintr
Shell built-in functions to respond to (hardware) signals.

optisa
Determine which variant instruction set is optimal to use.

pack
Shrinks file into a compressed file.

pagesize
Display the size of a page of memory in bytes, as returned by getpagesize.

passwd
Allows you to change your password.

paste
Merge corresponding or subsequent lines of files.

pax
Read/write and writes lists of the members of archive files and copy directory hierarchies.

pcat
Compresses file.

perl
Perl is a programming language optimized for scanning arbitrary text files, extracting information from those text files.

pg
Files perusal filters for CRTs.

pgrep
Examine the active processes on the system and reports the process IDs of the processes

pico
Simple and very easy to use text editor in the style of the Pine Composer.

pine
Command line program for Internet News and Email.

ping
Sends ICMP ECHO_REQUEST packets to network hosts.

pkill
Examine the active processes on the system and reports the process IDs of the processes

poweroff
Stop the computer.

pr
Formats a file to make it look better when printed.

priocntl
Display's or set scheduling parameters of specified process(es)

printenv
Prints all or part of environment.

printf
Write formatted output.

ps
Reports the process status.

pstree
Displays processes in tree format.

pvs
Display the internal version information of dynamic objects within an ELF file.

pwd
Print the current working directory.

quit
Allows you to exit from a program, shell or log you out of a Unix network.

rcp
Copies files from one computer to another computer.

readlink
Prints the value of a symbolic link or canonical file name.

reboot
Stop the computer.

red
Line oriented file editor.

rehash
Recomputes the internal hash table of the contents of directories listed in the path.

remsh
Runs a command on another computer.

renice
Alters the priority of running processes.

repeat
Shell built-in functions to repeatedly execute action(s) for a selected number of times.

replace
A string-replacement utility.

rgview
A programmers text editor.

rgvim
A programmers text editor.

rlogin
Establish a remote connection from your terminal to a remote machine.

rm
Deletes a file without confirmation (by default).

rmail
One of the ways that allows you to read/send E-Mail.

rmdir
Deletes a directory.

rn
Reads newsgroups.

route
Show and manipulate the IP routing table.

rpcinfo
Report RPC information.

rsh
Runs a command on another computer.

rsync
Faster, flexible replacement for rcp.

rview
A programmers text editor.

rvim
A programmers text editor.

s2p
Convert a sed script into a Perl script.

sag
Graphically displays the system activity data stored in a binary data file by a previous sar run.

sar
Displays the activity for the CPU.

screen
Screen manager with VT100/ANSI terminal emulation.

script
Records everything printed on your screen.

sdiff
Compares two files, side-by-side.

sed
Allows you to use pre-recorded commands to make changes to text.

sendmail
Sends mail over the Internet.

service
Runs a System V init script.

set
Set the value of an environment variable.

setenv
Set the value of an environment variable.

setfacl
Modify the Access Control List (ACL) for a file or files.

sethostname
System calls or set the hostname of the current processor.

settime
Change file access and modification time.

sftp
Secure file transfer program.

sh
Runs or processes jobs through the Bourne shell.

shred
Delete a file securely, first overwriting it to hide its contents.

shutdown
Turn off the computer immediately or at a specified time.

sleep
Waits a x amount of seconds.

slogin
OpenSSH SSH client (remote login program).

smbclient
An ftp-like client to access SMB/CIFS resources on servers.

sort
Sorts the lines in a text file.

spell
Looks through a text file and reports any words that it finds in the text file that are not in the dictionary.

split
Split a file into pieces.

stat
Display file or filesystem status.

stop
Control process execution.

strftime
Formats strings that represent the system date and time.

strip
Discard symbols from object files.

stty
Sets options for your terminal.

su
Become super user or another user.

sysinfo
Get and set system information strings.

sysklogd
Linux system logging utilities.

tabs
Set tabs on a terminal.

tail
Delivers the last part of the file.

talk
Talk with other logged in users.

tac
Concatenate and print files in reverse.

tar
Create tape archives and add or extract files.

tbl
Preprocessor for formatting tables for nroff or troff.

tcopy
Copy a magnetic tape.

tcpdump
Dump traffic on a network.

tee
Read from an input and write to a standard output or file.

telinit
Process control initialization.

telnet
Uses the telnet protocol to connect to another remote computer.

test
Check file types and compare values.

time
Used to time a simple command.

timex
The timex command times a command; reports process data and system activity.

todos
Converts text files between DOS and Unix formats.

top
Display Linux tasks.

touch
Change file access and modification time.

tput
Initialize a terminal or query terminfo database.

tr
Translate characters.

traceroute
Print the route packets take to network host.

troff
Typeset or format documents.

tty
Print the file name of the terminal connected to standard input.

ul
Reads the named filenames or terminal and does underlining.

umask
Get or set the file mode creation mask.

unalias
Remove an alias.

unhash
Remove internal hash table.

uname
Print name of current system.

uncompress
Uncompressed compressed files.

uniq
Report or filter out repeated lines in a file.

unlink
Call the unlink function to remove the specified file.

unlzma
Decompress .lzma file.

unmount
Disconnects a file systems and remote resources.

unpack
Expands a compressed file.

untar
Create tape archives and add or extract files.

until
Execute a set of actions while/until conditions are evaluated TRUE.

unxz
Decompress .xz files.

unzip
List, test and extract compressed files in a ZIP archive.

useradd
Create a new user or updates default new user information.

userdel
Remove a users account.

usermod
Modify a users account.

vacation
Reply to mail automatically.

vedit
Screen-oriented (visual) display editor based on ex.

vgrind
Grind nice program listings

vi
Screen-oriented (visual) display editor based on ex.

vim
A programmers text editor.

view
A programmers text editor.

w
Show who is logged on and what they are doing.

wait
Await process completion.

wall
Send a message to everybody's terminal.

wc
Displays a count of lines, words, and characters in a file

whatis
Displays short manual page descriptions.

whereis
Locate a binary, source, and manual page files for a command.

while
Repetitively execute a set of actions while/until conditions are evaluated TRUE.

which
Locate a command.

who
Displays who is on the system.

whoami
Print effective userid.

whois
Internet user name directory service.

write
Send a message to another user.

X
Execute the X windows system.

xfd
Display all the characters in an X font.

xhost
Server access control program for X.

xlsfonts
Server font list displayer for X.

xset
User preference utility for X.

xterm
Terminal emulator for X.

xrdb
X server resource database utility.

xz
Compress files to .xz files.

xzcat
View compressed .xz files.

yacc
Short for yet another compiler-compiler, yacc is a compiler.

yes
Repeatedly output a line with all specified STRING(s), or 'y'.

yppasswd
Changes network password in the NIS database.

yum
Interactive rpm based package manager.

zcat
Compress files.

zip
Compression and file packaging utility.

NAME
rename - renames multiple files

SYNOPSIS
rename [-v] [-n] [-f] perlexpr [files]

DESCRIPTION
"rename" renames the filenames supplied according to the rule specified as the first argument. The perlexpr argument is a Perl expression which is expected to modify the $_ string in Perl for at least some of the filenames specified. If a given filename is not modified by the

expression, it will not be renamed. If no filenames are given on the command line, filenames will be read via standard input.

For example, to rename all files matching "*.bak" to strip the extension, you might say

rename ’s/.bak$//’ *.bak

To translate uppercase names to lower, you’d use

rename ’y/A-Z/a-z/’ *

OPTIONS

-v, --verbose
Verbose: print names of files successfully renamed.

-n, --no-act
No Action: show what files would have been renamed.

-f, --force
Force: overwrite existing files.

Very easily to rename all the files in the current directory you can type (assuming you are using bash):

for i in *; do mv $i 1_$i; done

obviously take it with care (it will remane ALL the files in the current directory that are 'visible' (filename not starting with a '.')

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have a question concerning the renamining of multiple files in a folder. For about 200 files I would like to add the String "1_" to the beginning of all filenames. The filenames are for example "DATASET_X_Y_Z" and the result should be "1_DATASET_X_Y_Z". Maybe somebody knows how to do this the easy way. Unfortunately I don't know a thing about Shellscripting but maybe there is a oneliner for the terminal.

rename 's/^/1_/' * for renaming all files in the current directory

or

rename 's/^/1_/' DATASET* for renaming all files in the current directory starting with DATASET in their name

Explanation: the expression s/^/1_/ says: "replace the beginning of the filename (that means this symbol -> ^)' with 1_".

I have around 300 files named

some_name_123456789.zip
another-name2_987654321.zip
something(1)_123454321.zip

[2]something_987656789.zip

I need to rename them all to

ds_123456789.zip
ds_987654321.zip
ds_123454321.zip
ds_987656789.zip

How can i do this?

rename "s/.+_/ds/g" files

.+ represents everything up to (in this context) the last underscore (_) character (so this works with multiple underscores, as mentioned in your first example). This requires that there be at least one character before the underscore; if you might have file names like _20131012.zip, use .* instead. So this three-character string (.+_ or .*_) will match everything up to and including the last underscore in the filename. s/old/new/ means substitute the new string (ds) for the old string. The g means global and might not be necessary in this case.

To be sure that the regexp matches from the beginning I would rather put ^ to the beginning. Also OP wanted to retain the underscore. The g option at the end is not really needed here - it would match multiple instances in the file name if possible. So I think this command would perform better:

rename "s/^.+_/ds_/" files

adding the g is just a standard habit from me and i agree that it's not needed in this case.

For files handling in gnome you will have to use the graphical version of vim called gvim, to install it type sudo apt-get install vim-gnome.

Has an option you can create a .desktop file that will be listed on 'Open with other application' tab:

Navigate to ~/.local/share/applications
Create a file called vim-console.desktop with these contents:

[Desktop Entry]
Encoding=UTF-8
Name=Vim Text Editor (Console)
Comment=Edit text files in a console using Vim
Exec=gnome-terminal --full-screen --execute bash -c "vim %u"
Terminal=true
Type=Application
Icon=/usr/share/pixmaps/vim.svg
Categories=Application;Utility;TextEditor;
StartupNotify=true
MimeType=text/plain;
NoDisplay=true

After this you will see Vim Text Editor (Console) in your Open with other application tab, select it and when you double click the file you will be able to open it using vim terminal editor.