

# LINUX COMMAND LINE BASICS:

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# PART 1: Navigation

Linux has evolved as a great choice for desktop OS and most of the tasks can be accomplished from within the GUI. But still, we may need to use the command line interface in case of an emergency where GUI is not available or for remote administration (Telnet, SSH etc.) from a place with a very low bandwidth.

Now we'll learn how to navigate around using command line. The Linux version used here is Linux Mint 9.0, which is a variant of Debian Linux. To practice, start the 'Terminal' from the 'Accessories' section of the main menu. Please note that Linux commands are case sensitive.

1. pwd - Print Working Directory. This command outputs the current directory the user is in. For a Linux desktop user, it is typically '/home/<user-name>'. Everything in Linux is represented as a folder or a file. '/' is the root directory and all other directories fall under this directory (more about the Linux directory structure in the next part). So, if your user name is 'sam', your home directory will be '/home/sam'.



2. Is - List. This command lists the contents of a directory.

<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> dit <u>V</u> iew <u>T</u> erminal <u>H</u> elp	
<pre>( You have a reputation for being ( thoroughly reliable and trustwor ( pity that it's totally undeserved)</pre>	) thy. A ) d. )
o o !=_/ // \ (   ) ('\)=(/	
<pre>ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ \$ pwd /home/ihaveapc ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ \$ [[5] Desktop Downloads Music Pul Documents FrostWire Pictures Ter ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ \$ []</pre>	blic Videos nplates

To view the directory contents in long format, issue the command:

# ls -l

<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> dit	<u>V</u> ie	w <u>T</u> ermin	al <u>H</u> elp					10
( Don't pl ( evicted	an a soor	any hasty n anyway.	moves. Yo	ou'll	be ) )			
0								
{~ ( <u>Y</u>	~} )							
()-( ihaveapc@i	) have	apc ~ \$ [	ls -l					4
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-09	15:19	Desktop	
drwxr-xr-x	5	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-04	13:27	Documents	
drwxr-xr-x	9	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-09	11:30	Downloads	
drwxr-xr-x	6	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-03	02:33	FrostWire	
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	07:07	Music	
drwxr-xr-x	3	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	22:48	Pictures	
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	07:07	Public	
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	07:07	Templates	
drwxr-xr-x	10	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-09	11:29	Videos	
ihaveapc@i	have	apc ~ \$	]					

In the above screenshot, you can see the output of list command in long format. The first column represents user permissions, which will learn about in the upcoming posts. Second column represents number of files/folders in that directory. Third column represents the owner. Fourth column represents the owner's group. Fifth column represents the size in bytes. Sixth and seventh columns represent the date and time modified respectively. Last column represents the file/folder name.

In Linux, a hidden file/directory name starts with a dot i.e. '.'. If you want to view the hidden files/directories then issue the following command:

ls	-	la
10		u

<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> dit	⊻ie	w <u>T</u> ermin	al <u>H</u> elp					
drwx	4	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	07:20	.mozilla	^
lrwxrwxrwx	1	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	27	2010-07-06	21:43	<pre>.mozilla-thunderbird -&gt;</pre>	
/home/ihave	eap	c/.thunde	rbird					
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-05	09:05	.mplayer	
-rw-rr	1	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	80	2010-06-29	23:11	.mtpaint	
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	07:07	Music	
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	07:08	.nautilus	
drwxr-xr-x	3	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	03:04	.openoffice.org	
drwxr-xr-x	3	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	22:48	Pictures	
-rw-rr	1	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	675	2010-06-29	07:05	.profile	
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	07:07	Public	
drwx	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-09	01:38	.pulse	
- rw	1	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	256	2010-06-29	07:08	.pulse-cookie	
- rw	1	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	1500	2010-07-09	15:22	.recently-used.xbel	
-rw-rr	1	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	Θ	2010-06-29	07:27	.sudo_as_admin_successfu	
1								
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	07:07	Templates	
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	02:26	.themes	
drwx	5	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	22:48	.thumbnails	
drwx	3	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-06	21:43	.thunderbird	=
drwxr-xr-x	10	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-09	11:29	Videos	-
- rw	1	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	162792	2010-07-09	15:21	.xsession-errors	
- rw	1	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	123568	2010-07-08	11:03	.xsession-errors.old	
ihaveapc@il	have	eapc ~ \$						×

Also note that in the above screenshot, the colored entries are directories and black entries are files. Notice the second entry, which has '->' in it's name. It is a link, which is similar to shortcut file in windows. In above case, '.mozilla-thunderbird' is a link to actual directory '/home/ihaveapc/.thunderbird'.

Also, note that the output has scrolled too fast for the user to read. To make the output readable, we will use two things- a pipe (|) and 'more'. Pipe will cascade output of one command as a input of the second command. Command 'more' will instruct the system to display output screen full at a time until space key is pressed. Hence, if we issue command:

# ls -la | more

then, we will get the same output as above but screen full at time until user presses the space key to advance to the next screen.

<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> dit	Vie	w <u>T</u> ermin	al <u>H</u> elp				2.1
total 496							^
drwxr-xr-x	41	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-09	15:23	
drwxr-xr-x	3	root	root	4096	2010-06-29	07:05	
drwx	3	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	02:05	.adobe
- rw	1	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	2177	2010-07-09	15:21	.bash_history
-rw-rr	1	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	220	2010-06-29	07:05	.bash logout
drwx	6	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-09	01:38	.cache
drwx	3	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	07:10	.compiz
drwxr-xr-x	14	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-09	04:29	.config
drwx	3	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	07:07	.dbus
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-09	15:22	Desktop
- rw-rr	1	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	36	2010-07-09	01:38	.dmrc
drwxr-xr-x	5	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-04	13:27	Documents
drwxr-xr-x	9	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-09	11:30	Downloads
- rw	1	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	16	2010-06-29	07:08	.esd_auth
drwx	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-05	22:49	.filezilla
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-05	22:16	.fontconfig
drwxr-xr-x	6	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-03	02:33	FrostWire
drwxr-xr-x	7	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-07	01:29	.frostwire4.18
drwx	5	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-09	01:38	.gconf
drwx	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-09	15:23	.gconfd
drwx	4	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	01:59	.gegl-0.0
drwxr-xr-x	22	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-05	22:17	.gimp-2.4
More							×.

<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> dit	⊻ie	w <u>T</u> ermin	al <u>H</u> elp		ii 10		410
drwxr-xr-x	22	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-05	23:04	.gimp-2.6 ^
- rw- r	1	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	Θ	2010-07-09	01:41	.gksu.lock
drwx	10	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-08	11:03	.gnome2
drwx	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	07:08	.gnome2 private
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-09	11:29	.gstreamer-0.10
- rw-rr	1	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	152	2010-07-09	01:38	.gtk-bookmarks
dr-x	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	Θ	2010-07-09	01:38	.gvfs
- rw	1	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4564	2010-07-09	01:38	.ICEauthority
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	02:26	.icons
drwxr-xr-x	12	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-08	00:42	.jdownloader
drwxr-xr-x	6	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	12:43	.linuxmint
drwxr-xr-x	3	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	07:05	.local
drwx	3	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	02:05	.macromedia
drwx	4	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	07:20	.mozilla
lrwxrwxrwx	1	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	27	2010-07-06	21:43	.mozilla-thunderbird ->
/home/ihav	eap	c/.thunder	rbird				
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-05	09:05	.mplayer
-rw-rr	1	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	80	2010-06-29	23:11	.mtpaint
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	07:07	Music
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	07:08	.nautilus
drwxr-xr-x	3	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	03:04	.openoffice.org
drwxr-xr-x	3	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-29	22:48	Pictures
-rw-rr	1	ihaveapc	ihaveapc	675	2010-06-29	07:05	.profile
More							

3. cd – Change Directory. This command allows you to change the current working directory. Syntax is simple: 'cd <directory path>'. To go to the root directory, issue the following command:

cd /

```
File Edit View Terminal Help
-rw----- 1 ihaveapc ihaveapc
                                 256 2010-06-29 07:08 .pulse-cookie
-rw----- 1 ihaveapc ihaveapc 1500 2010-07-09 15:23 .recently-used.xbel
-rw-r--r-- 1 ihaveapc ihaveapc
                                   0 2010-06-29 07:27 .sudo as admin successfu
1
drwxr-xr-x 2 ihaveapc ihaveapc 4096 2010-06-29 07:07 Templates
drwxr-xr-x 2 ihaveapc ihaveapc 4096 2010-06-29 02:26 .themes
drwx----- 5 ihaveapc ihaveapc 4096 2010-06-29 22:48 .thumbnails
drwx----- 3 ihaveapc ihaveapc 4096 2010-07-06 21:43 .thunderbird
drwxr-xr-x 10 ihaveapc ihaveapc 4096 2010-07-09 11:29 Videos
-rw----- 1 ihaveapc ihaveapc 162949 2010-07-09 15:22 .xsession-errors
-rw----- 1 ihaveapc ihaveapc 123568 2010-07-08 11:03 .xsession-errors.old
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ $ cd /
ihaveapc@ihaveapc / $ pwd
                                             2
1
ihaveapc@ihaveapc / $ cd ~
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ $ pwd
/home/ihaveapc
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ $ cd -
1
ihaveapc@ihaveapc / $ cd /etc
ihaveapc@ihaveapc /etc $ [cd /home/ihaveapc]
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ $ pwd
/home/ihaveapc
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ $
```

After changing the directory, you can use 'pwd' command to check your current directory. You can issue command:

cd ~

from any directory to go back to your home directory.

You can issue command:

cd -

to switch back to previous directory in which you were working before issuing last 'cd' command.

Also, notice that when we changed to directory '/etc' by issuing command 'cd /etc', the directory path is displayed on the left side of the '\$' sign. When we changed to home directory by issuing command 'cd /home/ihaveapc', '~' is displayed on the left side of the '\$' sign. Recall that '~' represents home directory.

4. cp – Copy. The syntax is simple 'cp <path to the file/folder to be copied> <path where the file/folder is to be copied>'

In below screenshot, we have changed to directory '/home/ihaveapc/Pictures' and we want to copy the file '10.jpg' to '/home/ihaveapc/Desktop'. Hence, we issue the following command:

### cp 10.jpg /home/ihaveapc/Desktop

```
File Edit View Terminal Help
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ $ cd /
ihaveapc@ihaveapc / $ pwd
ihaveapc@ihaveapc / $ cd ~
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ $ pwd
/home/ihaveapc
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ $ cd -
1
ihaveapc@ihaveapc / $ cd /etc
ihaveapc@ihaveapc /etc $ cd /home/ihaveapc
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ $ pwd
/home/ihaveapc
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ $ ls
Desktop
          Downloads Music
                               Public
                                           Videos
Documents FrostWire Pictures Templates
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ $ cd Pictures/
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Pictures $ ls
10.jpg
                                          9.jpg
17798469-743a-458b-8475-bea23f585b59.jpg amateur_nonsense__-1440x900.jpg
7ea5eb31-1472-4bb8-a32c-af067d80194c.jpg Photos
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Pictures $ cp 10.jpg /home/ihaveapc/Desktop/
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Pictures $ cp -avr 10.jpg /home/ihaveapc/Desktop/
`10.jpg' -> `/home/ihaveapc/Desktop/10.jpg'
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Pictures $
```

However, notice that we did not get any message on screen as the file was copied. Hence, we can issue the '-avr' option. 'a' means archive(preserve link and permissions), 'v' means verbose(show what is being done), 'r' means recursive(copy recursively). Hence, we issue the following command:

### cp -avr 10.jpg /home/ihaveapc/Desktop

Note that the previously copied '10.jpg' in 'Desktop' directory was overwritten without confirmation. To avoid this we will use the option '-i'. 'i' means interactive(confirm before overwriting). Hence, the above command will be modified to:

cp -iavr 10.jpg /home/ihaveapc/Desktop

5. mkdir – Make Directory. Syntax is simple 'mkdir <directory name to be created>'

Now, we make a directory 'pics' in the 'Desktop' folder by issuing the following command:

mkdir pics

```
File Edit View
                <u>T</u>erminal
                         Help
/home/ihaveapc
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ $ cd -
ihaveapc@ihaveapc / $ cd /etc
ihaveapc@ihaveapc /etc $ cd /home/ihaveapc
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ $ pwd
/home/ihaveapc
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ $ ls
          Downloads Music
Desktop
                               Public
                                          Videos
Documents FrostWire Pictures Templates
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ $ cd Pictures/
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Pictures $ ls
10.jpg
                                          9.jpg
17798469-743a-458b-8475-bea23f585b59.jpg amateur nonsense -1440x900.jpg
7ea5eb31-1472-4bb8-a32c-af067d80194c.jpg Photos
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Pictures $ cp 10.jpg /home/ihaveapc/Desktop/
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Pictures $ cp -avr 10.jpg /home/ihaveapc/Desktop/
10.jpg' -> `/home/ihaveapc/Desktop/10.jpg'
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Pictures $ cd /home/ihaveapc/Desktop/
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ mkdir pics
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ ls
001.jpeg 003.jpeg 005.jpeg 007.jpeg 10.jpg
002.jpeg 004.jpeg 006.jpeg 008.jpeg pics
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $
```

6. mv – Move. The syntax is simple 'mv <path to the file/folder to be moved> <path where the file/folder is to be moved>'

We need to move the file '10.jpg' from directory 'Desktop' to directory 'pics'. For this we will issue the following command:

mv 10.jpg /home/ihaveapc/Desktop/pics

```
<u>File Edit View Terminal Help</u>
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ $ ls
Desktop
          Downloads Music
                               Public
                                          Videos
Documents FrostWire Pictures Templates
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ $ cd Pictures/
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Pictures $ ls
10.jpg
                                         9.jpg
17798469-743a-458b-8475-bea23f585b59.jpg amateur nonsense -1440x900.jpg
7ea5eb31-1472-4bb8-a32c-af067d80194c.jpg Photos
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Pictures $ cp 10.jpg /home/ihaveapc/Desktop/
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Pictures $ cp -avr 10.jpg /home/ihaveapc/Desktop/
`10.jpg' -> `/home/ihaveapc/Desktop/10.jpg'
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Pictures $ cd /home/ihaveapc/Desktop/
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ mkdir pics
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ ls
001.jpeg 003.jpeg 005.jpeg 007.jpeg 10.jpg
002.jpeg 004.jpeg 006.jpeg 008.jpeg pics
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ mv 10.jpg /home/ihaveapc/Desktop/pics
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ ls
001.jpeg 003.jpeg 005.jpeg 007.jpeg 009.jpeg
002.jpeg 004.jpeg 006.jpeg 008.jpeg
                                       pics
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ cd pics/
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop/pics $ ls
10. jpg
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop/pics $
```

7. rm – Remove. This command deletes a file/directory. Syntax is 'rm <file/directory name to be deleted>'

We need to delete file '10.jpg' in directory 'pics'. Hence, we issue the following command:

rm 10.jpg

```
<u>File Edit View Terminal Help</u>
Documents FrostWire Pictures Templates
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~ $ cd Pictures/
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Pictures $ ls
10.jpg
                                         9.jpg
17798469-743a-458b-8475-bea23f585b59.jpg amateur nonsense -1440x900.jpg
7ea5eb31-1472-4bb8-a32c-af067d80194c.jpg Photos
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Pictures $ cp 10.jpg /home/ihaveapc/Desktop/
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Pictures $ cp -avr 10.jpg /home/ihaveapc/Desktop/
'10.jpg' -> '/home/ihaveapc/Desktop/10.jpg'
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Pictures $ cd /home/ihaveapc/Desktop/
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ mkdir pics
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ ls
001.jpeg 003.jpeg 005.jpeg 007.jpeg 10.jpg
002.jpeg 004.jpeg 006.jpeg 008.jpeg pics
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ mv 10.jpg /home/ihaveapc/Desktop/pics
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ ls
001.jpeg 003.jpeg 005.jpeg 007.jpeg 009.jpeg
002.jpeg 004.jpeg 006.jpeg 008.jpeg pics
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ cd pics/
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop/pics $ ls
10.jpg
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop/pics $ rm 10.jpg
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop/pics $ ls
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop/pics $
```

However, if we try to delete a directory which has files/folders in it, system will not delete it and will tell you that the directory is not empty. Hence, we can use '-rf' option in such cases. 'r' means recursive(delete recursively), 'f' means force(do not prompt about non-existent files). Hence, we issue the following command to delete 'pics' directory:

rm -rf pics

```
<u>File Edit View Terminal Help</u>
`10.jpg' -> `/home/ihaveapc/Desktop/10.jpg'
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Pictures $ cd /home/ihaveapc/Desktop/
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ mkdir pics
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ ls
001.jpeg 003.jpeg 005.jpeg 007.jpeg 10.jpg
002.jpeg 004.jpeg 006.jpeg 008.jpeg pics
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ mv 10.jpg /home/ihaveapc/Desktop/pics
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ ls
001.jpeg 003.jpeg 005.jpeg 007.jpeg 009.jpeg
002.jpeg 004.jpeg 006.jpeg 008.jpeg pics
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ cd pics/
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop/pics $ ls
10.jpg
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop/pics $ rm 10.jpg
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop/pics $ ls
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop/pics $ cd ...
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ ls
001.jpeg 003.jpeg 005.jpeg 007.jpeg 009.jpeg 011.jpeg
002.jpeg 004.jpeg 006.jpeg 008.jpeg 010.jpeg
                                                pics
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ rm -rf pics
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $ ls
001.jpeg 003.jpeg 005.jpeg 007.jpeg 009.jpeg 011.jpeg
002.jpeg 004.jpeg 006.jpeg 008.jpeg 010.jpeg
ihaveapc@ihaveapc ~/Desktop $
```

[Be very careful while using the above command. Never run the above command on root directory as a root user.]

# PART 2: Linux Directory Structure and Permissions

We will now continue with the Linux command line basics. We will go through the standard Linux directory structure before you explaining some concepts about Linux file permissions so that you will be in a better position to understand user/group management commands and the commands used to set file permissions in Linux.

# Linux directory structure:

The Linux directory structure is like a tree. Standard Linux directory structure generally contains the following directories-

1. / – This is the highest level directory in the tree. It is called 'root' and all other folders and devices are its subdirectories. In Linux, everything is represented as a file or a folder (even hardware devices!). Since, you can set permissions on files and folders; you can secure access to these files and folders. This is the reason why Linux is secure by design.

2. **/bin** – This directory contains essential binary applications required by the system to operate.

3. /usr/bin – This directory contains the binary applications for the system's users.

4. **/sbin** – This directory contains the binary applications required for system administration by a super user. This folder contains critical binary applications that system must use even before other directories are mounted.

5. **/usr/sbin** – This directory contains the binary applications required for system administration by a super user but the applications are available only after booting is completed.

6. **/boot** – This is the directory where Linux kernel and boot loader files are kept.

7. **/dev** – This directory contains all the hardware devices available to the system represented as files. The system can read from and write to these files or both depending on the type of device.

8. **/etc** – This directory contains the configuration files for the OS, applications and the start up scripts.

9. **/home** – This is the directory which contains the user's home directories. In general, a normal user cannot write or make changes to the directories outside his home directory. This reduces the chances of user accidently messing up the system. Only root user (administrator) or super users can write or make changes anywhere in the Linux directory structure.

10. **/lib** – This directory contains the shared libraries required for proper functioning of the system.

11. **/lost+found** – This directory contains the lost and found files from the root directory.

12. **/mnt** – This directory is the mount point for the mounted file systems in your computer.

13. **/media** – This directory is the mount point for the file systems of the removable devices.

14. **/opt** – This directory is a place for the optional applications that can be installed.

15. **/proc** – This is a virtual directory that contains entries corresponding to the processes and threads running in the system.

16. **/srv** – This directory acts as a temporary location for the data to be used by the servers.

17. **/sys** – This directory contains system-specific information to be used as a reference for other applications.

18. **/tmp** – This directory is used for temporary storage of files.

19. **/usr** – This directory contains files/folders that support applications that are available to all the users.

20. **/var** – This directory contains files that change while the system is running.

## File / Folder permissions in Linux:

In Linux, there are 3 types of file permissions-

r (read) – Allows user to view the file – numerical value = 4

w (write) – Allows user to edit the file – numerical value = 2

x (execute) – Allows user to run the file as an executable – numerical value =1

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				~

While listing a directory in long format via Is -I command, you will notice the that the first column has the following format-

drwxrwxrwx

or

-rwxrwxrwx

This column represents the file / folder permissions. Let us see how-

#### - **r w x r w x r w x**

The first character from left represents the whether the listed entry is a file (represented by '-'), directory (represented by 'd') or a link (represented by 'l').

#### -rwxrwx rwx

The red characters represent the permissions provided to the owner of the file. Presence of a character(r, w or x) represents that the permission for that action (read, write or execute) is granted. Presence of a '-' instead of the character represents that the permission for that action (read, write or execute) is denied.

In above case the owner has permission to read, write and execute the file. Note that, r+w+x = 4+2+1 = 7.

#### -rwx rwxrwx

The green characters represent the permissions provided to the members of the owner's group for the file. In above case the group members have permission to read, write and execute the file. Note that, r+w+x = 4+2+1 = 7.

- r w x r w x r w x

The blue characters represent the permissions provided to all the other users for the file. In above case the other users have permission to read, write and execute the file. Note that, r+w+x = 4+2+1 = 7.

The numerical value of the above permission is represented as 777.

Here are few examples of the file permissions-

**rwx-----:** (4+2+1, 0+0+0, 0+0+0 = 700) Owner can read, write and execute the file. Group users and other users do not have any permission for the file.

**rw-rw-rw- : (4+2+0, 4+2+0, 4+2+0 = 666)** All users can read and write to the file.

rw-r--r-: (4+2+0, 4+0+0, 4+0+0 = 644) Owner can read and write to the file. Group users and others can only read the file.

The **directory permissions** are calculated in similar manner with just the following differences-

r (read) – Allows user to list the files in the directory – numerical value = 4

w (write) – Allows user to create new files and delete the files in the directory – numerical value = 2

x (execute) – Allows user to change to the directory via cd command – numerical value =1

Here are few examples of directory permissions-

**rwxrwxrwx :** (4+2+1, 4+2+1, 4+2+1 = 777) Allows owner, group members and others to list files in directory, create files in directory, delete files from the directory and to change to the directory.

**rwxr-xr-x** : (4+2+1, 4+0+1, 4+0+1 = 755) Allows owner to list files in directory, create files in directory, delete files from the directory and to change to the directory. Group members and others can change to the directory and list the files only.

**rwx-----:** : (4+2+1, 0+0+0, 0+0+0 = 700) Allows owner to list files in directory, create files in directory, delete files from the directory and to change to the directory. Group members and others do not have any permission on the directory. This makes the directory private to the owner.

### PART 3: Managing Users And Groups

We will learn how to manage users and groups.

1. adduser – Add user. Syntax is 'sudo adduser <user name>'. We need to use 'sudo' as root privileges are required to run this command. A root user can run the command without 'sudo'. To add a new user named 'mint1', issue the following command in the terminal:

sudo adduser mint1



Enter the user password when prompted. A new user called 'mint1' will be created. A home directory will be created for the new user in '/home' location. The name of new user's home directory will be same as his user name. [Note that the default structure of the home directory is defined in '/etc/skel' (skel=skeleton). Every time a home directory is to be created for a new user, files are copied from '/etc/skel']. The system will now ask you to create a password for this new user. Type the password and re-type it when prompted. Ask the user to change this password to a desired one by using 'passwd' command when the user logs in for the first time. You can also enter the full name and contact details of the new user when prompted. Type 'y' to confirm the information and hit enter.

In similar manner, to add a new user named 'mint2', issue the following command in the terminal:

sudo adduser mint2

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Adding user `mint2'	
Adding new group `mint2' (1002)	
Adding new user `mint2' (1002) with group `mint2'	
Creating home directory `/home/mint2'	
Copying files from `/etc/skel'	
Enter new UNIX password:	
Retype new UNIX password:	
passwd: password updated successfully	
Changing the user information for mint2	
Enter the new value, or press ENTER for the default	
Full Name []: Lmint user2	
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Note that two new home directories have been created for users 'mint1' and 'mint2' in '/home' location.

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	3 items, Free space: 15.2	GB			

2. deluser – Delete user. Syntax is 'sudo deluser <user name>'. We need to use 'sudo' as root privileges are required to run this command. A root user can run the command without 'sudo'. To delete the user 'mint1' issue the following command at the terminal:

sudo deluser mint1



Note that the above command does not delete user's home directory. It is still present in '/home' location.

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	3 items, Free space: 15.2 GB					

If you want to delete a user as well as his home directory, use the option '-removehome'. In order to delete user 'mint2' as well as his home directory issue the following command at the terminal:

sudo deluser mint2 -remove-home



Note that the user's directory has been deleted from the '/home' location.



3. addgroup – Add group. Syntax is 'sudo addgroup <group name>'. We need to use 'sudo' as root privileges are required to run this command. A root user can run the command without 'sudo'. To add a group called 'team1', issue the following command at the terminal:

#### sudo addgroup team1



To add a group called 'team2', issue the following command at the terminal:

sudo addgroup team2



Now, click on 'Menu>Administration>Users and Groups'.

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Places	Applications	do addgroup teaml
📃 Computer	All applications	Favorites 🌳 🗥
<ul> <li>Computer</li> <li>Home Folder</li> <li>Network</li> <li>Desktop</li> <li>Trash</li> </ul> System <ul> <li>Software Manager <ul> <li>Package Manager</li> <li>Control Center</li> <li>Terminal</li> <li>Lock Screen</li> </ul></li></ul>	All applications          All         Administration         Preferences	Favorites         Compute the sources for installable source and         Startup Disk Creator Create a startup disk using a CD or disc image         StartUp-Manager Change settings for the bootloader and splash screen         Synaptic Package Manager Install, remove and upgrade software packages         System Monitor View current processes and monitor system state         Time and Date Change system time, date, and timezone         Update Manager Show and install available updates         Upload Manager Define upload services         Users and Groups Add or remove users and groups
Logout		Windows Wireless Drivers Ndiswrapper driver installation tool
() Quit	Filter:	

Click on 'Manage Groups'.

Linux Command Line Basics – www.ihaveapc.com

<b>2</b>	Users Settings	×
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	Account type: Custom	<u>C</u> hange
	Password: Asked on login	<u>C</u> hange
Add Delete	<u>Manage Groups</u>	Advanced Settings
Help		Close

Notice that groups 'team1' and 'team2' have been added. Select 'team1' and click 'Properties'.

🤷 Grou	ıps settings	×
	~	Add
ssl-cert		Add
staff		Properties
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team1	N	
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You can view the list of users who are members of this group. Click 'OK' to close the window.

2	Group 'team1' Properties ×
Basic Settings	5
Group <u>n</u> ame:	team1
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You can also select a user and click 'Advanced Settings'.

<b>A</b>	Users Settings	×
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Help		Close

Enter user password when prompted and click 'Authenticate'.

Authenticate ×
You need to authenticate to modify the system configuration
An application is attempting to perform an action that requires privileges. Authentication is required to perform this action.
Password:
<u>Cancel</u>

In the 'Change Advanced User Settings' window, you can modify user's main group, if required.

Chang	e Advanced Us anging advan <b>aveapc</b>	ser Settings ced settings fo	> or:
Contact Information	User Privileges	Advanced	
Advanced Setting Disable account Home directory:	gs nt //home/ihaveap	2	
<u>S</u> hell:	/bin/bash		~
<u>M</u> ain group:	ihaveapc		\$
User ID:	1000		
You can't ch	nange user ID wh	nile the user is log	ige <mark>d</mark> in.
		Cancel	<u>0</u> K

4. delgroup – Delete group. Syntax is 'sudo delgroup <group name>'. We need to use 'sudo' as root privileges are required to run this command. A root user can run the command without 'sudo'. In order to delete groups 'team1' and 'team2', issue the following commands at the terminal:

#### sudo delgroup team1

#### sudo delgroup team2

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Done.	
<pre>ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ sudo delgroup team2</pre>	
Removing group team2' Done.	
ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$	
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5. passwd – Change user password. Syntax is 'passwd <user name>'. You can change the password for the user whose name has been entered.

Simply issuing command 'passwd' enable you to change your own password. Issuing the command 'sudo passwd' will enable you to change root user's password.

To change your password, issue the following command at the terminal:

passwd



You need to enter your current password, new password and then re-type the new password.

6. who – Shows list of logged on users. To view the users which are logged on, issue the following command at the terminal:

who

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Note that the users 'root' and 'ihaveapc' are logged in the system (entries 1 and 2). Entry 3 (pts/0) denotes the pseudo terminal slave session of user 'ihaveapc' (as we have opened a terminal in the GUI after logging in to the Gnome desktop, that session becomes the slave session of our current session in the GUI).

### PART 4: Users, Groups And Permissions

We'll now learn how to add users to groups via command line and how to modify file/folder permissions.

Let's create two groups in the system- 'team1' and 'team2'

Issue the following commands at the terminal:

sudo addgroup team1

sudo addgroup team2

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				< III.

1. useradd – adds a new user to an existing group.

Syntax 1 – sudo useradd -g <group-name> <user-name>

The above command will add a new user to an existing group. The option '-g' will make the specified group new user's primary group. In order to add new users 'user1' and 'user2' with primary group 'team1', issue the following commands at the terminal:

sudo useradd -g team1 user1

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			=

## sudo useradd -g team2 user2

Syntax 2 - sudo useradd -G <group-name> <user-name>

The above command will add a new user to an existing group. The option '-G' will make the specified group new user's secondary group. In order to add new users 'user3' and 'user4' with secondary group 'team2', issue the following commands at the terminal:

sudo useradd -G team2 user3

sudo useradd -G team2 user4

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2. usermod – adds an existing user to an existing group.

Syntax 1 – sudo usermod -g <group-name> <user-name>

The above command will add an existing user to an existing group. The option '-g' will make the specified group existing user's primary group. In order to add existing users 'user3' and 'user4' with primary group 'team1', issue the following commands at the terminal:

sudo usermod -g team1 user3

sudo usermod -g team1 user4



Syntax 2 – sudo usermod -a -G <group-name> <user-name>

The above command will add an existing user to an existing group. The options '-a' and '-G' will make the specified group existing user's secondary group. In order to add existing users 'user1' and 'user2' with secondary group 'team2', issue the following commands at the terminal:

sudo usermod -a -G team2 user1

sudo usermod -a -G team2 user2



3. chmod – modifies file/folder permissions.

Syntax - chmod <permission value> <file/folder name>

Issue the following command at the terminal:

chmod 777 firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2

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ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$			
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The above command will allow everybody to read, write and execute the file.

Issue the following command at the terminal:

chmod 755 firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2

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<pre>ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ ls -la firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2</pre>			
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The above command will allow the file owner to read, write and execute the file. Group users can read and execute the file. Others can only execute the file.

Issue the following command at the terminal:

chmod 700 firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2

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Documents firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2 Pictures Templates Videos			
<pre>ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ [chmod 7/7 firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2]</pre>			
Inaveapcoinaveapc-desktop ~ 5 15 -ta IIrelox-3.0.8.tar.DZZ		2	
ibayeancdibayeanc.deskton ~ \$ chmod 755 firefox-3 6.8 tar bz2	.02	4	
ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ [ls -la firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2]			
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<pre>ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ ls -la firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2</pre>			
-rwx1 ihaveapc ihaveapc 2364214 2010-08-09 00:28 firefox-3.6.8.ta	.bz	2	
ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$			
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The above command will allow file owner to read, write and execute the file. Group users and others have no permissions on the file.

Now, let us look how 'chmod' is used to modify folder permissions.

Issue the following command at the terminal ('test' is folder in our home directory):

chmod 777 test

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- rw	1	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 4654	2010-08-16	12:00	.ICEauthority	
drwxr-xr-x	6	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 4096	2010-06-26	13:45	.linuxmint	
drwxr-xr-x	3	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 4096	2010-06-26	12:12	.local	
drwx	4	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 4096	2010-08-09	00:26	.mozilla	
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 4096	2010-06-26	12:19	Music	
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 4096	2010-06-26	12:19	.nautilus	
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 4096	2010-06-26	12:19	Pictures	
- rw- r r	1	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 675	2010-06-26	12:12	.profile	
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 4096	2010-06-26	12:19	Public	
drwx	2	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 4096	2010-08-16	12:00	.pulse	
- rw	1	ihaveapc ihave	eapc 256	2010-06-26	12:19	.pulse-cookie	
- rw	1	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 36347	2010-08-16	12:32	.recently-used.xbel	
- rw- r r	1	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 0	2010-06-26	12:22	.sudo as admin success	f
ul							
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 4096	2010-06-26	12:19	Templates	
drwxrwxrwx	2	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 4096	2010-08-16	12:25	Trees.T	
drwx	3	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 4096	2010-07-14	10:37	.thumbnails	
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 4096	2010-06-26	12:19	Videos	
drwxr-xr-x	2	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 4096	2010-07-14	10:41	.wicd	
- rw	1	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 3223	2010-08-16	12:03	.xsession-errors	
- rw	1	ihaveapc ihav	eapc 6675	2010-08-12	18:46	.xsession-errors.old	Ŧ
ihaveapc@ih	ave	eapc-desktop ~	\$			······································	$\geq$

The output of 'ls -la' command shows that the above command allows owner, group members and others to list files in directory 'test', create files in directory 'test', delete files from the directory 'test' and to change to the directory 'test'.

Issue the following command at the terminal:

### chmod 755 test

5. Te	erminal – +	×
<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> dit <u>V</u> iew <u>T</u> erminal <u>H</u> elp		
<pre>ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ ls</pre>		^
Desktop Downloads Mus	sic Public test	
ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ chmod	755 test	
ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$		
	4	
		HI
		$\geq$

5		Terminal	- + ×
<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> dit	<u>V</u> iew <u>T</u> erminal <u>H</u> elp	▶	
- rw-rr	1 ihaveapc ihaveapc	152 2010-08-16 12:00	.gtk-bookmarks
dr-x	2 ihaveapc ihaveapc	0 2010-08-16 12:00	.gvfs
- rw	1 ihaveapc ihaveapc	4654 2010-08-16 12:00	.ICEauthority
drwxr-xr-x	6 ihaveapc ihaveapc	4096 2010-06-26 13:45	.linuxmint
drwxr-xr-x	3 ihaveapc ihaveapc	4096 2010-06-26 12:12	.local
drwx	4 ihaveapc ihaveapc	4096 2010-08-09 00:26	.mozilla
drwxr-xr-x	2 ihaveapc ihaveapc	4096 2010-06-26 12:19	Music
drwxr-xr-x	2 ihaveapc ihaveapc	4096 2010-06-26 12:19	.nautilus
drwxr-xr-x	2 ihaveapc ihaveapc	4096 2010-06-26 12:19	Pictures
- rw-rr	1 ihaveapc ihaveapc	675 2010-06-26 12:12	.profile
drwxr-xr-x	2 ihaveapc ihaveapc	4096 2010-06-26 12:19	Public
drwx	2 ihaveapc ihaveapc	4096 2010-08-16 12:00	.pulse
- rw	1 ihaveapc ihaveapc	256 2010-06-26 12:19	.pulse-cookie
- rw	1 ihaveapc ihaveapc	39283 2010-08-16 12:36	.recently-used.xbel
- rw-rr	1 ihaveapc ihaveapc	0 2010-06-26 12:22	.sudo as admin successf
ul			
drwxr-xr-x	2 ihaveapc ihaveapc	4096 2010-06-26 12:19	Templates
drwxr-xr-x	2 ihaveapc ihaveapc	4096 2010-08-16 12:25	test
drwx	3 ihaveapc ihaveapc	4096 2010-07-14 10:37	.thumbnails
drwxr-xr-x	2 ihaveapc ihaveapc	4096 2010-06-26 12:19	Videos
drwxr-xr-x	2 ihaveapc ihaveapc	4096 2010-07-14 10:41	.wicd
- rw	1 ihaveapc ihaveapc	3223 2010-08-16 12:03	.xsession-errors
- rw	1 ihaveapc ihaveapc	6675 2010-08-12 18:46	.xsession-errors.old
ihaveapc@il	naveapc-desktop ~ \$		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

The output of 'ls -la' command shows that the above command allows owner to list files in directory 'test', create files in directory 'test', delete files from the directory 'test' and to change to the directory 'test'. Group members and others can change to the directory 'test' and list the files only.

Issue the following command at the terminal:

chmod 700 test

<u>File Edit View Terminal Help</u> ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ ls Desktop Downloads Music Public test Documents firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2 Pictures Templates Videos ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ chmod 700 test ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$	
<pre>ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ ls Desktop Downloads Music Public test Documents firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2 Pictures Templates Videos ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ chmod 700 test ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$</pre>	
Desktop Downloads Music Public test Documents firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2 Pictures Templates Videos ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ chmod 700 test ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$	^
ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ chmod 700 test	
ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$	
	111
	~

				Term	inal	59.	- +	×
<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> dit	<u>V</u> iew	Termin	al <u>H</u> elp			k		
- rw- r r	1 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	152	2010-08-16	12:00	.gtk-bookmarks	^
dr-x	2 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	Θ	2010-08-16	12:00	.gvfs	
- rw	1 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	4654	2010-08-16	12:00	.ICEauthority	
drwxr-xr-x	6 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-26	13:45	.linuxmint	
drwxr-xr-x	3 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-26	12:12	.local	
drwx	4 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-08-09	00:26	.mozilla	
drwxr-xr-x	2 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-26	12:19	Music	
drwxr-xr-x	2 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-26	12:19	.nautilus	
drwxr-xr-x	2 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-26	12:19	Pictures	
- rw-rr	1 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	675	2010-06-26	12:12	.profile	
drwxr-xr-x	2 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-26	12:19	Public	
drwx	2 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-08-16	12:00	.pulse	
- rw	1 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	256	2010-06-26	12:19	.pulse-cookie	
- rw	1 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	40475	2010-08-16	12:37	.recently-used.xbel	
- rw- r r	1 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	Θ	2010-06-26	12:22	.sudo as admin success	f
ul		-						
drwxr-xr-x	2 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-26	12:19	Templates	
drwx	2 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-08-16	12:25	test	
drwx	3 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-14	10:37	.thumbnails	
drwxr-xr-x	2 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-06-26	12:19	Videos	
drwxr-xr-x	2 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	4096	2010-07-14	10:41	.wicd	
- rw	1 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	3223	2010-08-16	12:03	.xsession-errors	
- rw	1 i	haveapc	ihaveapc	6675	2010-08-12	18:46	.xsession-errors.old	Ŧ
ihaveapc@il	navea	pc-deskt	op ~ \$	All Constants	annes from an anne an anne			~

The output of 'Is -Ia' command shows that the above command allows owner to list files in directory 'test', create files in directory 'test', delete files from the directory 'test' and to change to the directory 'test'. Group members and others do not have any permission on the directory 'test'.

4. chown – changes file ownership.

Syntax - sudo chown <user-name(of new owner)> <file-name>

Issue the following command at the terminal:

sudo chown user1 firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2



5	Terminal .	- +	×
<u>F</u> ile	Edit View Terminal Help		
ihave	<pre>eapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ ls -la firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2</pre>		^
- rwx -	1 user1 ihaveapc 2364214 2010-08-09 00:28 firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2		
THONE	apelitina eaper desktop ~ 5		
			11

The output of command 'Is -Ia firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2' shows that 'user1' is the new owner of the file.

5. chgrp – changes file's group ownership

Syntax - sudo chgrp <group-name(of new owner group)> <file-name>

Issue the following command at the terminal:

sudo chgrp team1 firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2

🖸 Terminal	-	+	×
<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> dit <u>V</u> iew <u>T</u> erminal <u>H</u> elp			
<pre>ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ ls -la firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2 rwx 1 userl ihaveapc 2364214 2010-08-09 00:28 firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2 ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ sudo chgrp teaml firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2 ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ ls -la firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2 -rwx 1 userl teaml 2364214 2010-08-09 00:28 firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2 ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ ]</pre>			< III >>
	_		-

The output of the command 'ls -la firefox-3.6.8.tar.bz2' shows that the file's group ownership has changed to 'team1'.

# PART 5: System Information Commands

Now we'll learn a few Linux system information commands:

1. df – disk free. This commands displays file system and disk space usage for all partitions. If option '-h' (human-readable) is used with the command, it will generate the report using KB/MB/GB units instead of number of blocks which are displayed when the command is used without any options.

			Tern	ninal			N	+	×
<u>File Edit V</u> iev	<u>T</u> erminal	<u>H</u> elp					N		
0									^
0									
{~~} ( ¥ ) ()~*~() (_)-(_)	anc-deskton	~ \$ df	1						
Filesystem	1K-bl	ocks	llse	d Av	ailable	lise%	Mounted on		
/dev/sda1	1973	7268	282504	44 1	5909628	16%	/		
none	24	7592	24	18	247344	1%	/dev		
none	25	4624	22	28	254396	1%	/dev/shm		
none	25	4624	27	76	254348	1%	/var/run		
none	25	4624		Θ	254624	0%	/var/lock		
none	25	4624		Θ	254624	0%	/lib/init/rw		Ξ
ihaveapc@ihavea	apc-desktop	~ \$ df	- h						
Filesystem	Size	Used	Avail	Use%	Mounted	d on			
/dev/sda1	190	2.7G	16G	16%	1				
none	242M	248K	242M	1%	/dev				
none	249M	228K	249M	1%	/dev/sł	nm			
none	249M	276K	249M	1%	/var/ru	un			
none	249M	Θ	249M	0%	/var/lo	ock			
none	249M	Θ	249M	0%	/lib/ir	nit/r	N		
ihaveapc@ihavea	apc-desktop	~ \$							$\geq$

2. free – This command displays information about the amount of used and free system memory. If option '-m' is used with the command, report is generated using MB unit.

5			Termina	i l		(ii	- + ×
<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> dit	<u>V</u> iew <u>T</u> erm	ninal <u>H</u> elp			7		
ihaveapc@	ihaveapc-des	sktop ~ \$ fi	ree				1
	total	used	free	shared	buffers	cached	
Mem:	509248	400488	108760	Θ	39068	235028	
-/+ buffe	rs/cache:	126392	382856				
Swap:	916472	0	916472				
ihaveapc@	ihaveapc-des	sktop ~ \$ fi	ree -m				
	total	used	free	shared	buffers	cached	
Mem:	497	391	106	Θ	38	229	
-/+ buffe	rs/cache:	123	373				
Swap:	894	Θ	894				
Inaveapc@	inaveapc-des	ктор ~ \$ []					
							Ξ
							1

3. top – This command provides a real-time information about Linux system uptime, number of users, system load, number of tasks, and utilization of system resources such as cpu, memory and swap partition. You can press 'Ctrl' + 'Z' keys to quit the program at any time.

5					Terminal		+	×
<u>F</u> ile	e <u>E</u> dit	<u>V</u> iew	<u>T</u> erminal	<u>H</u> elp				
ihav	veapc@i	haveap	c-desktop	~ \$ top				~
						5	7	
								< HI

5						Tern	niı	nal		Ň		- +	×
<u>F</u> ile	<u>E</u> dit <u>V</u> iew	Terr	min	al <u>H</u> e	lp					*			
top -	10:05:52	up 18	mi	in, 2	users	5, la	oad	d aver	age: (	9.39, 0.2	7, 0.17		^
Tasks	: 132 tota	ι,	1 1	running	, 129	9 slee	ep:	ing,	1 sto	opped,	l zombie		
Cpu(s	): 5.0%us	, 4.	0%	sy, 0.	0%ni	, 91.0	0%:	id, 0	.0%wa	0.0%hi	, 0.0%si, (	0.0%st	S
Mem:	509248k	tota	1,	4019	948k I	used,		10730	0k fre	ee, 391	192k buffers		
Swap:	916472k	tota	ι,		Ok u	used,		91647	2k fre	ee, 2353	352k cached		
PID	USER	PR	NI	VIRT	RES	SHR	S	%CPU	%MEM	TIME+	COMMAND		
895	root	20	0	44048	18m	9340	S	6.6	3.8	0:11.07	Xorg		
1542	root	20	0	24296	6732	1984	S	0.7	1.3	0:02.13	wicd		
2194	ihaveapc	20	Θ	46568	11m	9388	S	0.7	2.4	0:00.69	gnome-termin	nal	
2138	ihaveapc	20	0	40252	11m	9656	S	0.3	2.4	0:00.31	wnck-applet		
2297	ihaveapc	20	0	2544	1216	928	R	0.3	0.2	0:00.04	top		
1	root	20	0	2800	1672	1224	S	0.0	0.3	0:01.20	init		
2	root	20	Θ	Θ	Θ	Θ	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	kthreadd		
3	root	RT	0	Θ	Θ	Θ	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	migration/0		
4	root	20	0	Θ	Θ	Θ	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	ksoftirqd/0		
5	root	RT	Θ	Θ	Θ	Θ	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	watchdog/0		
6	root	20	Θ	Θ	Θ	Θ	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.06	events/0		
7	root	20	Θ	Θ	Θ	Θ	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	cpuset		
8	root	20	0	Θ	0	0	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	khelper		
9	root	20	Θ	Θ	Θ	Θ	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	netns		
10	root	20	Θ	Θ	Θ	Θ	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	async/mgr		Ξ
11	root	20	Θ	Θ	Θ	Θ	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	pm		
12	root	20	Θ	Θ	Θ	Θ	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	sync supers		$\sim$

4. uname – unix name. This command provides the name, kernel version and other system architecture details about the current system and the Linux OS running on it. If option '-a' is used with the command, it will print machine type, network node host name, processor type, OS release and OS version.

	Terminal	N	– + ×
<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> dit <u>V</u> iew <u>T</u> erminal <u>H</u>	<u>i</u> elp	4	
<pre>ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ Linux ihaveapc-desktop 2.6. 2010 i686 GNU/Linux ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~</pre>	• \$ uname -a 32-21-generic #32-Ubuntu • \$ ∎	SMP Fri Apr 16	08:10:02 UTC
			Ξ
			~

5. lsb\_release – This command provides Linux Standard Base and the distribution information. When '-a' option is used with the command, it will print LSB version, distributor ID, description of distribution, release number and codename of the distribution.

5				Terminal	N	- +	×
<u>F</u> ile	<u>E</u> dit <u>V</u> iev	v <u>T</u> erminal	<u>H</u> elp		n.		
ihavea No LSE Distri Descri Releas Codena ihavea	apc@ihavea B modules ibutor ID iption: se: ame: apc@ihavea	are availa LinuxMint Linux Min 9 isadora apc-desktop	~ \$ [lsb_ ble. t 9 Isado ~ \$ []	<u>_release -a</u>			*
							Ξ
							$\sim$

### PART 6: More System Information Commands

Let us learn a few more Linux system information commands.

1. **ifconfig** – interface configuration. This command displays information about the network interfaces in a system.

5		Terminal		1	+	×
<u>F</u> ile	<u>E</u> dit <u>V</u> iew <u>T</u> erminal <u>H</u> el	р				
ihave	apc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$	ifconfig				^
eth0	Link encap:Ethernet inet addr:192.168.1 inet6 addr: fe80::2 UP BROADCAST RUNNIN RX packets:54 error TX packets:57 error collisions:0 txqueu RX bytes:5807 (5.8 Interrupt:19 Base a	HWaddr 00:0c:29 48.128 Bcast:192 0c:29ff:fe02:d87e G MULTICAST MTU: s:0 dropped:0 ove s:0 dropped:0 ove elen:1000 KB) TX bytes:703 ddress:0x2024	0:02:d8:7e 2.168.148.255 Ma 2/64 Scope:Link 1500 Metric:1 erruns:0 frame:0 erruns:0 carrier 87 (7.0 KB)	ask:255.255.255	.0	
lo	Link encap:Local Lo inet addr:127.0.0.1 inet6 addr: ::1/128 UP LOOPBACK RUNNING RX packets:20 error TX packets:20 error collisions:0 txqueu RX bytes:1200 (1.2	opback Mask:255.0.0.0 Scope:Host MTU:16436 Metr s:0 dropped:0 ove s:0 dropped:0 ove elen:0 KB) TX bytes:120	ric:1 erruns:0 frame:0 erruns:0 carrier 00 (1.2 KB)	: 0		
Inave	apc@inaveapc-desktop ~ 3					
						111
						$\sim$

2. iwconfig – This command is similar to 'ifconfig' command but it only displays information about the wireless network interfaces. (You won't see any wireless network interface in the screenshot as it has been taken inside a virtual machine.)



3. ps – process status. This command shows you all the processes running in the system.

5	Terminal	<u> 1990</u>	+	×
File	<u>E</u> dit <u>V</u> iew <u>T</u> erminal <u>H</u> elp			
ihave	apc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ ps			^
PID 2107	TTY TIME CMD			
2279	pts/0 00:00:00 top			
2297	pts/0 00:00:00 top			
2427	pts/0 00:00:00 ps			
Ihave	apc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$			
				111
				$\sim$

4. Ispci – This command lists all PCI buses and devices connected to them.

5			T	erminal					- ×
<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> o	dit <u>V</u> iew	Terminal	<u>H</u> elp			<b></b> ►			
ihaveap	@ihavea	pc-desktop	~ \$ lspci						^
00:00.0	Host br	idge: Inte	l Corporati	on 440B	X/ZX/DX	- 82443BX	/ZX/DX Host	bridge	: (
rev 01)		17.1	с. 					550	
00:01.0	PCI bri	dge: Intel	Corporatio	n 440BX	/ZX/DX -	82443BX/	ZX/DX AGP t	o <mark>ridge</mark> (	re
00:07.0	TSA bri	dae: Intel	Corporatio	n 82371		PTTX4 TS	A (rev 08)		
00:07.1	IDE int	erface: In	tel Corpora	tion 82	371AB/EB	MB PIIX4	IDE (rev @	91)	
00:07.3	Bridge:	Intel Cor	poration 82	371AB/E	B/MB PII	X4 ACPI (	rev 08)	-,	
00:07.7	System	peripheral	: VMware Vi	rtual M	achine C	ommunicat	ion Interfa	ace (rev	1
0)		a na sana an							
00:0f.0	VGA com	patible co	ntroller: \	Mware S	VGA II A	dapter			
00:10.0	SCSI st	orage cont	roller: LSI	Logic	/ Symbio	s Logic 5	3c1030 PCI-	X Fusio	n-
MPT Dua	l Ultra3	20 SCSI (r	ev 01)						
00:11.0	PCI bri	dge: VMwar	e PCI bridg	e (rev	02)				
00:15.0	PCI bri	dge: VMwar	e PCI Expre	ss Root	Port (r	ev 01)			
00:15.1	PCI bri	dge: VMwar	e PCI Expre	ss Root	Port (r	ev 01)			
00:15.2	PCI bri	dge: VMwar	e PCI Expre	ss Root	Port (r	ev 01)			
00:15.3	PCI Dri	dge: vmwar	e PCI Expre	SS ROOT	Port (r	ev OI)			
00:15.4	PCI Dri	dge: VMwar	e PCI Expre	SS ROOL	Port (r	ev OI)			
00.15.6	PCI Dri	dge: VMwar	e PCI Expre	SS ROOL	Port (r	ev 01)			=
00:15.0	PCI DII	dge: VMwar		SS ROOL	Port (r	ev 01)			
00.15.7	PCT bri	dge: VMwar	e PCI Expre	ss Root	Port (r	ev 01)			
00:16.1	PCI bri	dge: VMwar	e PCI Expre	ss Root	Port (r	ev 01)			~

5. Terminal – +	×
<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> dit <u>V</u> iew <u>T</u> erminal <u>H</u> elp	
00:16.6 PCI bridge: VMware PCI Express Root Port (rev 01)	^
00:16.7 PCI bridge: VMware PCI Express Root Port (rev 01)	
00:17.0 PCI bridge: VMware PCI Express Root Port (rev 01)	
00:17.1 PCI bridge: VMware PCI Express Root Port (rev 01)	
00:17.2 PCI bridge: VMware PCI Express Root Port (rev 01)	
00:17.3 PCI bridge: VMware PCI Express Root Port (rev 01)	
00:17.4 PCI bridge: VMware PCI Express Root Port (rev 01)	
00:17.5 PCI bridge: VMware PCI Express Root Port (rev 01)	
00:17.6 PCI bridge: VMware PCI Express Root Port (rev 01)	
00:17.7 PCI bridge: VMware PCI Express Root Port (rev 01)	
00:18.0 PCI bridge: VMware PCI Express Root Port (rev 01)	
00:18.1 PCI bridge: VMware PCI Express Root Port (rev 01)	
00:18.2 PCI bridge: VMware PCI Express Root Port (rev 01)	
00:18.3 PCI bridge: VMware PCI Express Root Port (rev 01)	
00:18.4 PCI bridge: VMware PCI Express Root Port (rev 01)	
00:18.5 PCI bridge: VMware PCI Express Root Port (rev 01)	
00:18.6 PCI bridge: VMware PCI Express Root Port (rev 01)	
00:18.7 PCI bridge: VMware PCI Express Root Port (rev 01)	
02:00.0 USB Controller: Intel Corporation 82371AB/EB/MB PIIX4 USB	
02:01.0 Ethernet controller: Advanced Micro Devices [AMD] 79c970 [PCnet32 LANCE]	
(rev 10)	
02:02.0 Multimedia audio controller: Ensoniq ES1371 [AudioPCI-97] (rev 02)	-
02:03.0 USB Controller: VMware USB2 EHCI Controller	-
ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$	$\times$

5. Isusb – This command lists all USB buses and devices connected to them.

E Terminal	- +	×
<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> dit <u>V</u> iew <u>T</u> erminal <u>H</u> elp		
<pre>ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$ lsusb Pug 202 Pavies 201. ID ldch 2021 Lizzw Foundation 1.1 meet bub</pre>		^
Bus 001 Device 001: ID 1d6b:0001 Linux Foundation 1.1 root hub Bus 001 Device 001: ID 1d6b:0002 Linux Foundation 2.0 root hub		
ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$		
		111
		~
		-

6. Ishal – This command lists all the devices that HAL(Hardware Abstraction Layer) is aware about i.e. most of the hardware connected to your system.



```
info.subsystem = 'pci' (string)
 info.udi = '/org/freedesktop/Hal/devices/pci 8086 7191' (string)
 info.vendor = 'Intel Corporation' (string)
 linux.hotplug type = 2 (0x2) (int)
 linux.subsystem = 'pci' (string)
 linux.sysfs path = '/sys/devices/pci0000:00/0000:00:01.0' (string)
 pci.device class = 6 (0x6) (int)
 pci.device protocol = 0 (0x0) (int)
 pci.device subclass = 4 (0x4) (int)
 pci.linux.sysfs path = '/sys/devices/pci0000:00/0000:00:01.0' (string)
 pci.product = '440BX/ZX/DX - 82443BX/ZX/DX AGP bridge' (string)
 pci.product_id = 29073 (0x7191) (int)
pci.subsys_product_id = 0 (0x0) (int)
 pci.subsys vendor id = 0 (0x0) (int)
 pci.vendor = 'Intel Corporation' (string)
 pci.vendor id = 32902 (0x8086) (int)
udi = '/org/freedesktop/Hal/devices/pci 8086 7190'
```

E Terminal	- +	×
<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> dit <u>V</u> iew <u>T</u> erminal <u>H</u> elp		
<pre>info.product = '440BX/ZX/DX - 82443BX/ZX/DX Host bridge' (string) info.subsystem = 'pci' (string) info.udi = '/org/freedesktop/Hal/devices/pci_8086_7190' (string) info.vendor = 'Intel Corporation' (string) linux.hotplug_type = 2 (0x2) (int) linux.subsystem = 'pci' (string) linux.sysfs_path = '/sys/devices/pci0000:00/0000:00:00.0' (string) pci.device_class = 6 (0x6) (int) pci.device_protocol = 0 (0x0) (int) pci.device_subclass = 0 (0x0) (int) pci.linux.sysfs_path = '/sys/devices/pci0000:00/0000:00:00.0' (string) pci.product = '440BX/ZX/DX - 82443BX/ZX/DX Host bridge' (string) pci.product = '440BX/ZX/DX - 82443BX/ZX/DX Host bridge' (string) pci.product_id = 29072 (0x7190) (int) pci.subsys_product_id = 6518 (0x1976) (int) pci.subsys_vendor = 'VMware' (string) pci.subsys_vendor = 'Intel Corporation' (string) pci.vendor = 'Intel Corporation' (string) pci.vendor = 'Intel Corporation' (string) pci.vendor_id = 32902 (0x8086) (int)</pre>		~
Dumped IIS device(s) from the drobat bevice List.		_
		TH.
ihaveapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$		$\leq$

7. Ishw – This command lists hardware present in the system including information about manufacturer, device type and where it is connected.



5	Terminal – +	×
<u>F</u> ile	Edit <u>V</u> iew Terminal <u>H</u> elp	
	vendor: VMware	^
	physical id: 18.2	
	bus info: pci@0000:00:18.2	
	version: 01	
	width: 32 bits	
	clock: 33MHz	
	<pre>capabilities: pci pm pciexpress msi bus_master cap_list configuration: driver=pcieport</pre>	
	resources: irq:50 ioport:f000(size=4096) memory:da800000-da8fffff	i
oport:	dd500000(size=1048576)	
1.0	*-pci:29	
	description: PCI bridge	
	product: PCI Express Root Port	
	vendor: VMware	
	physical id: 18.3	
	bus info: pci@0000:00:18.3	
	version: 01	
	width: 32 bits	
	clock: 33MHz	
	capabilities: pci pm pciexpress msi bus master cap list	-
	configuration: driver=pcieport	
	resources: irq:51 memory:dac00000-dacfffff ioport:dd900000(size=1	04
8576)		
	*-pci:30	~

5	Terminal	122	+	×
File	<u>E</u> dit <u>V</u> iew <u>T</u> erminal <u>H</u> elp			
	width: 32 bits clock: 33MHz capabilities: pci pm pciexpress msi bus_master cap_list configuration: driver=pcieport resources: irg:54 memory:db800000-db8fffff ioport:de500000(	size	=104	4
8576)				2
	<pre>*-pci:33     description: PCI bridge     product: PCI Express Root Port     vendor: VMware     physical id: 18.7     bus info: pci@0000:00:18.7     version: 01     width: 32 bits     clock: 33MHz     capabilities: pci pm pciexpress msi bus_master cap_list     configuration: driver=pcieport     resources: irg:55 memory:dbc00000-dbcfffff ioport:de900000()</pre>	size	=104	4
8576)				
*-r	<pre>remoteaccess UNCLAIMED vendor: Intel physical id: 1 capabilities: inbound eapc@ihaveapc-desktop ~ \$</pre>	\$		< III >

# PART 7: vi Cheat Sheet

