

IT 1100 : Introduction to Operating Systems

- Basic Commands

Command	Sample Usage	Description	
ssh	ssh smorgan@ssh.cs.dixie.edu ssh smorgan@scratch.cs.dixie.edu	allow remote connection to other computers	
wget	wget http://www.google.com/somefile.pdf	copy a file from the internet	
tar	tar -xvzf myfiles.tar	extract the tar file. This will put all of the files in your current directory. run the ls command to see them	
date	date	shows the current date and time of the computer	
cal	cal	shows a calendar and highlights the current date	
exit	exit	logs you out and closes the terminal	
pwd	pwd	prints the working directory or prints absolute path of the current directory	
ls	ls	lists the contents of the current directory	
	ls newdirectory/ ls ~ ls /	lists the contents of a specified directory	
	ls -a	lists all the contents in a directory including the hidden ones	
	ls -l	lists the contents of a directory in long format	
	ls -r	lists the contents of a directory in reverse order	
	ls -t	lists the contents of a directory in date/time order	
	ls --color	lists the contents of a directory with color highlights.	
	ls -R	lists the contents of a directory and all of the subdirectories - same as tree	

	ls -a -l ls -al	lists all the contents in a directory in long format
tree	tree	display the contents of a directory and all of the subdirectories - same as ls -R
cd	cd cd ~	change directories to your user home directory or \$HOME
	cd newdirectory/ cd /var	change directories to the specified directory
	cd -	return to the previous directory
echo	echo "Linux is Fun!"	print to the screen. quotations are optional, but helpful
less	less myfile.txt	display the contents of a file with the ability to navigate up and down
touch	touch newfile.txt	create an empty file
cp	cp myfile.txt myfile2.txt	copy a file
	cp -r mydirectory copydirectory	copy a directory
mv	mv myfile.txt rabbits.txt mv myfile.txt ../apple/myfile.txt	move or rename a file
	mv mydirectory/ newdir/ mv mydirectory/ ../coconut/mydirectory/	move or rename a directory
rm	rm myfile.txt	remove a file
	rm -r newdirectory/	remove a directory and all files inside
mkdir	mkdir mydirectory	make a new directory
ln	ln -s mydirectory/myfile name-of-symlink ln -s /full/path/to/original /full/path/to/new/link	create a symbolic link, like a shortcut to a file or directory
Wildcard Characters	ls foo.*	list files ending with any extension. Any number of characters 0-infinity. Example foo.txt.backup
	* ls file?.txt	list files with exactly one character between file and the

?		extension
[]	ls file[1-3].txt	list files with a 1, 2, or 3 between file and the extension. Example file3.txt
[!]	ls file[1-3][a,z,f]*	list files with a 1, 2, or 3 followed by an a, z, or f followed by any number of characters. Example file2z.jpg