

UNIX Commands Quick Reference

This page lists some frequently used UNIX commands. The symbols *DName* and *FName* stand for arbitrary directory and file names, respectively.

<u>Desired Action:</u>	<u>UNIX Command:</u>
Get information about a UNIX command	<code>man <i>Command</i></code>
Create a directory	<code>mkdir <i>DName</i></code>
Change (to arbitrary) directory	<code>cd <i>DName</i></code>
List contents of working directory	<code>ls</code>
List contents of arbitrary directory	<code>ls <i>DName</i></code>
List contents of directory in detail	<code>ls -l <i>DName</i></code>
List all (hidden) files in directory	<code>ls -a <i>DName</i></code>
Remove an empty directory	<code>rmdir <i>DName</i></code>
Remove a non-empty directory	<code>rm -r <i>DName</i></code>
Remove a file	<code>rm <i>FName</i></code>
Rename a file or directory	<code>mv <i>OldName</i> <i>NewName</i></code>
Move a file into a different directory	<code>mv <i>FName</i> <i>DName</i></code>
Copy a file	<code>cp <i>OriginalFName</i> <i>CopyFName</i></code>
Copy a directory and all its subdirectories	<code>cp -r <i>OriginalDName</i> <i>CopyDName</i></code>
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Clear the screen/window	<code>clear</code>
Record what appears on the screen/window	<code>script</code>
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Edit a file	<code>emacs <i>FName</i></code>
Translate a self-contained C++ program	<code>g++ <i>SourceFName</i> -o <i>ExecFName</i></code>
(Separately) compile C++ program	<code>g++ -c <i>SourceFName</i></code>
Link C++ object files	<code>g++ <i>FName</i>₁.o ... <i>FName</i>_N.o -o <i>ExecFName</i></code>