

UNIX Quick Reference:

(See UNIX in a nutshell for full descriptions of each command)

Basic Commands

ls, list files -a (all), -l (long format to view ownership)
chmod, changes permissions of a file
alias cp='/bin/cp -i', (aliases cp to interactive mode, asking you if you're sure when you use it)
cp file1 ../file2, (copies file1 to the parent directory with name file2)
which cp, (tells you if cp has been aliased to cp -i, which asks you if you are sure every time you use the command)
unalias cp, (fixes this)
/bin/cp file1 file2, (another way to get around this alias)
cp -r directory1 directory2 (recursively copies all files in directory 1 to a new directory)
mv file1 ~/file2, (moves file2 to your home directory with name file2)
rm -rf directory, (remove recursively, forcefully, removes directories and everything in them)
scp username@machine:file1 . (copies file1 from machine with account username to the current directory)
mkdir, make directory, -p (make parent)
cd, change directory

Help

siteman command, returns the man page for the command
siteman -k keyword, searches all man pages for the keyword to find commands you might be looking for

File Manipulation

cat filename, show contents of file
more filename, show contents, pausing as you go
>, >>, <, << redirection of output
ls -l > newfile, creates a newfile whose contents are the output of ls
cat file2 >> newfile, appends contents of file2 to newfile
grep 'word' file, searches for a word in file
find . -name '*.q' -exec grep -n 'norm' {} \; -print > normal.txt, creates file normal.txt whose contents are the lines in files ending in .q that contain the word 'norm'
tar, -xf file.tar (extracts file.tar), -cv file.tar file1 file2 dir1 (creates file.tar which contains file1, file2 and dir1)
gzip file (creates file.gz a compressed file, commonly used after tar), gunzip file.gz (uncompresses a gzipped file)
diff file1 file2, (difference between file1 and file2)
who | sort | less, pipes the output of who into sort, and displays with less.

Processes

ps -u username, list all processes you're using on this machine
top, show all process currently running, u to sort by username (prstat on some machines)

kill pid, to kill a process that is 'hung'. kill -9 pid, means really kill that process

Printing

lpr -Pdh2088 file.txt, (prints file.txt to printer dh2088- only send text, ps or pdf files to the printer)
enscript -2rG -Pdh2093-duplex file.txt (prints two pages per sheet (rotated) with fancy header (G))
lpq -Pdh2088, (lists the print jobs in the print queue)
lprm -Pdh2093 username, (dequeues all print jobs for username)

L^AT_EX

latex file.tex, creates a dvi file
xdvi file.dvi, views dvi file
dvips file.dvi, creates a ps file
gv file.ps, views ps file
pdflatex file.tex, creates a pdf file
acroread file.pdf, views pdf file

Regular Expressions

ls *.q, list all files ending in .q, '*' is special
Each program has own regular expression syntax (perl, emacs, shell)

Emacs Regular Expression

^ beginning of line
\$ end of line
. single char
.* group or null of chars
\< beginning of a word
\> end of a word
[] every char inside the brackets (for example [a-z] means every small letter)