

## Basic UNIX Commands

Command	Description and Example
man	Help for a specific UNIX command. Hit the spacebar to see more of the help page and q to quit the help page, e.g., <code>man yppasswd</code>
pwd	Prints the name of the current working directory.
ls	Prints the list of the files and directories in the present working directory.
cd	Changes directory to the specified directory, e.g., <code>cd mydirectory</code> In order to go up one directory level, type <code>cd ..</code> In order to go to the top (home) directory, type <code>cd</code>
mkdir	Creates a directory in the current directory, e.g., <code>mkdir mynewdirectory</code>
cp	Copies a file (or group of files) to another file (or group of files), e.g., <code>cp originalfile newfile</code> If the new file is in another directory (that's already been created), type <code>cp originalfile otherdirectory/newfile</code> To move all the files in a directory to another one, type: <code>cp * otherdirectory/.</code>
mcopy	UNIX to MS-Dos copy, useful for backing up files to a floppy, e.g., to copy all the files in a directory to a: drive, type <code>mcopy * a:</code>
rm	Used to erase a file, e.g., <code>rm unwantedfile</code>
rmdir	Used to remove an empty directory, that is, you must erase all the files in the directory before it can be removed, e.g., <code>rmdir unwanteddirectory</code>
mv	Renames a file, e.g., <code>mv oldfilename newfilename</code> Or moves a file to another directory, e.g., <code>mv file otherdirectory/.</code>
who	Shows who is currently logged on to the computer.
clear	Clears the screen
ypasswd	Used to change your login password
ps	Shows the processes (programs) that a user is using and the associated PID numbers, e.g., for the user <code>pfurth</code> , type <code>ps -u pfurth</code>
kill	Used to terminate a process that you can't exit in a "normal" way, e.g., to terminate process ID 23270, type <code>kill 23270</code>
ssh	For logging securely onto another machine, e.g., <code>ssh othermachine</code> Type <code>exit</code> to log out from the other machine.
telnet	For logging insecurely onto another machine, e.g., <code>telnet othermachine</code> Type <code>exit</code> to log out from the other machine.
ftp	A program for transferring files from one UNIX machine to another. Type <code>quit</code> to exit from ftp.
emacs	Graphical text editor. This is a program common to many UNIX environments.
pico	Text editor that can be used with easily with telnet or ssh. It's not graphical.