Common SSH Commands or Linux Shell Commands

ls : list files/directories in a directory, comparable to dir in windows/dos.

ls -al : shows all files (including ones that start with a period), directories, and details attributes for each file.

cd : change directory

cd /usr/local/apache : go to /usr/local/apache/ directory

cd ~ : go to your home directory

cd - : go to the last directory you were in

cd .. : go up a directory

cat : print file contents to the screen

cat filename.txt : cat the contents of filename.txt to your screen

tail : like cat, but only reads the end of the file

tail /var/log/messages : see the last 20 (by default) lines of /var/log/messages tail -f /var/log/messages : watch the file continuously, while it's being updated tail -200 /var/log/messages : print the last 200 lines of the file to the screen more : like cat, but opens the file one screen at a time rather than all at once more /etc/userdomains : browse through the userdomains file. hit to go to the next page, to quit

pico : friendly, easy to use file editor

pico /home/burst/public_html/index.html : edit the index page for the user's website. vi : another editor, tons of features, harder to use at first than pico

vi /home/burst/public_html/index.html : edit the index page for the user's website. grep : looks for patterns in files

grep root /etc/passwd : shows all matches of root in /etc/passwd grep -v root /etc/passwd : shows all lines that do not match root touch : create an empty file

touch /home/burst/public_html/404.html : create an empty file called 404.html in the directory /home/burst/public_html/

ln : create's "links" between files and directories

ln -s /usr/local/apache/conf/httpd.conf /etc/httpd.conf : Now you can edit /etc/httpd.conf rather than the original. changes will affect the orginal, however you can delete the link and it will not delete the original.

rm : delete a file

rm filename.txt : deletes filename.txt, will more than likely ask if you really want to delete it rm -f filename.txt : deletes filename.txt, will not ask for confirmation before deleting. rm -rf tmp/ : recursively deletes the directory tmp, and all files in it, including subdirectories. BE VERY CAREFULL WITH THIS COMMAND!

last : shows who logged in and when

last -20 : shows only the last 20 logins

last -20 -a : shows last 20 logins, with the hostname in the last field

w : shows who is currently logged in and where they are logged in from.

netstat : shows all current network connections.

netstat -an : shows all connections to the server, the source and destination ips and ports. netstat -rn : shows routing table for all ips bound to the server. top : shows live system processes in a nice table, memory information, uptime and other useful info. This is excellent for managing your system processes, resources and ensure everything is working fine and your server isn't bogged down.

top then type Shift + M to sort by memory usage or Shift + P to sort by CPU usage ps: ps is short for process status, which is similar to the top command. It's used to show currently running processes and their PID.

A process ID is a unique number that identifies a process, with that you can kill or terminate a running program on your server (see kill command).

ps U username : shows processes for a certain user

ps aux : shows all system processes

ps aux --forest : shows all system processes like the above but organizes in a hierarchy that's very useful!

file : attempts to guess what type of file a file is by looking at it's content. file * : prints out a list of all files/directories in a directory du : shows disk usage. du -sh : shows a summary, in human-readble form, of total disk space used in the current directory, including subdirectories.

du -sh * : same thing, but for each file and directory. helpful when finding large files taking up space.

wc : word count

wc -l filename.txt : tells how many lines are in filename.txt

cp : copy a file

cp filename filename.backup : copies filename to filename.backup cp -a /home/burst/new_design/* /home/burst/public_html/ : copies all files, retaining permissions form one directory to another.

kill: terminate a system process

kill -9 PID

EG: kill -9 431

kill PID EG: kill 10550

Use top or ps ux to get system PIDs (Process IDs)

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EG:     PID   TTY  TIME COMMAND
10550 pts/3 0:01 /bin/csh
10574 pts/4 0:02 /bin/csh
10590 pts/4 0:09 APP
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Each line represents one process, with a process being loosely defined as a running instance of a program. The column headed PID (process ID) shows the assigned process numbers of the processes. The heading COMMAND shows the location of the executed process.

Putting commands together

Often you will find you need to use different commands on the same line. Here are some examples. Note that the | character is called a pipe, it takes date from one program and pipes it to another.

> means create a new file, overwriting any content already there.

>> means tp append data to a file, creating a newone if it doesn not already exist.

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send input from a file back into a command.
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grep User /usr/local/apache/conf/httpd.conf |more

This will dump all lines that match User from the httpd.conf, then print the results to your screen one page at a time.

last -a > /root/lastlogins.tmp
This will print all the current login history to a file called lastlogins.tmp in /root/
tail -10000 /var/log/exim_mainlog |grep domain.com |more
This will grab the last 10,000 lines from /var/log/exim_mainlog, find all occurances of domain.com (the period represents 'anything',
-- comment it out with a so it will be interpretted literally), then send it to your screen page by page.
netstat -an |grep :80 |wc -l
Show how many active connections there are to apache (httpd runs on port 80)
mysqladmin processlist |wc -l
Show how many current open connections there are to mysql

image:rdf newsfeed / //static.linuxhowtos.org/data/rdf.png (null)
|
image:rss newsfeed / //static.linuxhowtos.org/data/rss.png (null)
|
image:Atom newsfeed / //static.linuxhowtos.org/data/atom.png (null)
- Powered by
image:LeopardCMS / //static.linuxhowtos.org/data/leopardcms.png (null)
- Running on
image:Gentoo / //static.linuxhowtos.org/data/gentoo.png (null)
-

image:Valid XHTML1.1 / //static.linuxhowtos.org/data/xhtml.png (null)
:
image:Valid CSS / //static.linuxhowtos.org/data/css.png (null)
:
image:buttonmaker / //static.linuxhowtos.org/data/buttonmaker.png (null)
- Level Triple-A Conformance to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0 -
- Copyright and legal notices -
Time to create this page: ms
<!--
image:system status display / /status/output.jpg (null)
-->