

Practice Exercises for Basic File Commands

1. ls – List Directory Contents

- List all files (including hidden ones) in your home directory. What flag do you need?
- List the content of a given directory, showing details such as permissions, owner, size, and modification date.
- List files in the current directory sorted by file size, largest last. Which option do you add?

2. cp – Copy Files/Directories

- Copy a file named `file1.txt` to `file2.txt` in the same directory. What does the destination file contain afterward if it existed before?
- Copy all files starting with `part` (like `part1.txt` and `part2.txt` etc.) to a directory called `parts`. Which shell feature helps you select multiple files?
- Copy the entire directory `docs/` and all its files into `backup_docs/`. Which option is essential for this?
- Prevent overwriting when copying a file into a directory if a file of the same name exists there. Which option should you add?

3. mv – Move or Rename Files/Directories

- Rename a file called `draft.txt` to `final.txt` in the same directory.
- Move multiple `.log` files into a subdirectory called `logs/` with a single command.
- What happens if you try to `mv` a file onto an existing file? How can you be prompted before overwrite?

4. rm – Remove Files

- Remove a single file called `temp.txt`. What happens if the file does not exist?
- Remove several files at once in the current directory that end with `.bak`.
- What's the safest way to use `rm` so you are asked for confirmation before deleting each file?

- What command removes a directory and all its contents?

5. `rmdir` - Remove Empty Directories

- Create a directory called `to_delete/`, then remove it using one command.
- What happens if you run `rmdir` on a directory that's not empty? Try it out. Can you delete multiple empty directories at once?