



Chapter 2: Getting Help



The man Command

- The `man` command will display documentation for commands: `man pwd`
- Control the display with movement commands:
 - Space bar = Go down one page
 - b = Go up one page
 - 1G = Go to beginning of man page
 - G = Go to end of man page



Man Page Layout

- The format of each man page is broken into sub-sections:
 - NAME = Brief description
 - SYNOPSIS = How command is executed
 - OPTIONS = The options for the command
 - FILES = Which files are used for the command
 - SEE ALSO = Other resources for additional information



Man Page Sections

- The aggregate man pages are broken into different sections based on what they do
- Nine by default, more available for custom software
- Searched in order
- Can specify a specific category:
`$man 5 passwd`



Man Page Sections

- Each man page displays section at top:
- `man -f name` will return all man pages that match "name"
- `man -k keyword` will search all man pages for "keyword":
`$man -k passwd`



The info Command

- Alternative way of displaying documentation:
`info command`
- Info documentation is stored in categories which can be browsed
- Type "h" to bring up a help screen and see movement commands
- Not all commands have info pages



Additional Sources of Help

- Some commands support the `--help` option:
`$head --help`
- System documentation located
`/usr/share/doc`