

UWCS Linux 101 Cheatsheet

Notable DCS Programs

The programs listed here are formatted using `<Program name>` (`<shell program name>`). The shell program name will run the program when typed into the shell, where applicable.

- Browsers: Chrome (`chrome`), Firefox (`firefox`), Konqueror (`konqueror`)
- Text editors: Kate (`kate`), Gedit (`gedit`), Vim (`vim`), Emacs (`emacs`), Nano (`nano`)
- Terminals: Terminal, Konsole
- File Explorers: Dolphin (`dolphin`), Nautilus/Files (`nautilus`)
- PDF Viewers: Okular (`okular`), Evince/Document Viewer (`evince`)
- Program Compilers/Interpreters: GCC (`gcc`), Java Compiler (`javac`), Java (`java`), Python 2 (`python`), Python 3 (`python3`), Ruby (`ruby`)

Handy Commands and Arguments

N.B.: All single-letter command arguments are composable: `-a` and `-l` can be composed into `-al`.

help – Builtin function help

Usage: `help` – Useful when `man <command>` and `<command> --help` don't work

pwd – Print working directory

Usage: `pwd`

ls – List directory contents:

Usage: `ls [arguments] <path>`

- `-a` – Include directories/files whose names begin with a dot (`.`)
- `-d` – Directories are listed as plain files
- `-l` – List in long (detailed) format
- `-R` – Recursively list the subdirectories encountered

rm – Remove directory entries:

Usage: `rm [arguments] <path>`

- `-d` – Attempt to remove directories as other types of files
- `-f` – Attempt to remove files without confirmation (remove them forcefully)
- `-r, -R` – Recursively attempt to remove each subdirectory and file in the given path

mkdir – Make directories:

Usage: `mkdir [arguments] <path>`

- `-p` – Create intermediate/parent directories as required (if this isn't used, the full path must exist)

cp – Copy files

Usage: cp [arguments] <source_file> <target_file>

- -R – Copies a directory and its entire subtree of files and folders

ssh – Remote login client

Usage: ssh [arguments] <user@hostname>

clear – Clear the shell

Usage: clear

Handy Keyboard Shortcuts

Clear the shell: Ctrl+L

Exit the current shell program: Ctrl+C, Ctrl+D, q (This depends on the program in use)