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cd .. # one level up

cd # home directory

cd - # previous directory

ls –a # include hidden files

ls –l # long listing

ls –R # recurses through subdirectories with contents

ls –d # directory names without their contents

ls –lh # print sizes in human readable format

ls –ld # avoid listing directory contents

ls –i # print index number

ls –S # sort by file size

ls –t # sort by modification time (newest first)

ls –r # reverse order while sorting

ls –l --time-style=STYLE # STYLE: full-iso, long-iso, iso, locale, +FORMAT

cp file1 file2 # timestamp changes for the new file

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cp –p file1 file2 # all of the attributes are preserved

cp file1 dir1

cp file1 file2 dir1

cp ./dir1/* dir2

cp –r dir1 dir2 # -r (same as -R) copy entire directory tree

links aren't copied, permissions aren't preserved

cp –a dir1 dir2 # copy the entire tree including permissions and links

mv file1 file2 # renames directories or files

mv file1 ./dir1 # moves file/directory as specified in path

rm file1 # removes file name

rm -r dir1 # removes directory including its content,

rm -rf dir # 'f' argument turns confirmation off

rm -- -myfile # the fielename containes hyphen

Changing File Ownership

chown user_name file|directory

chgrp group_name file|directory

chown john myfile

chown –R john dir # operate on files and directories recursively

Changing Permissions

chmod mode file

where mode is: [u,g or o] [+ or -] [r, w or x] (Symbolic Method)

chmod o-rwx file1

chmod u-w,go-x file1

chmod +x file1 # the file is executable to all security levels