

## Quicksheet of helpful Linux Commands

### Useful Commands

Since the Linux environment provides a command line interface different from that of DOS or Windows, here's a list of some helpful commands:

`diff` : Compares two input text files and returns the differences between the two files.

`grep` : Allows the user to try and find a specific character string in a specified search space (default working directory).

`kill` : Used to "kill" a process [**\*\*Note:** For processes that refuse to die, simply type `kill -9 <PID>` . The "-9" tells the O/S to kill the process with extreme prejudice.]

`ls` : Returns the list of files in the current directory [**\*\*Note:** The special case `ls -al` is often very useful as it returns **all** the files/directories (including hidden ones) and **lists** detailed information about each file/directory].

`pidin` : Returns Process Identification Information.

`ps` : Returns the processes currently running on the processor.

`pwd` : Returns your Present Working Directory.

`cd` : Used to change directories.

`cp` : Used to copy files/directories.

`rm` : Used to delete files/directories.

`vi/vim/gvim` : A text editor available from the terminal command line (although Linux does provide a `gedit` text editor with which you may be more comfortable). A cheat sheet of common `vi/vim` commands is available from the course web page (you can google for numerous other `vi/vim` command references).

Remember you can combine commands by "piping them" using `|` or redirect the output from the terminal to a file using `>`. You can also obtain detailed information about a function and the supported flags (similar to the man pages in unix) via the "use" command and "man" pages. For example: `use diff`

### Web Support

Linux is open source shareware so you can google for whatever you want.

### Other Odds and Ends

BACKUP your work. Use some form of version control. `cvs` and `svn` are both supported in the version of Linux in the lab. If you can, check out `github` as this is a more recent and more popular version control software framework.