



# Linux Commands Every DevOps Engineer Should Know

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# System Monitoring & Performance

## CPU Usage:

**top** – Real-time process and resource usage.

**htop** – Enhanced process viewer.

**sar** – Historical resource usage.

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## Memory Usage:

**free -h** – Memory usage overview.

## Disk Usage:

**df -h** – Disk usage by filesystem.

**du -sh <path>** – Directory size.

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## Network Usage:

**netstat -tuln** or **ss -tuln** – Active connections.

**iftop** – Real-time bandwidth usage.

**ping <IP/hostname>** – Connectivity check. (**icmp**)

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# File and Directory Management

## File Management:

**ls -lh** – List files with details.

**cat, less, more** – View file content.

**find /path -name "\*.log"** – Search files.

## Permissions:

**chmod 755 <file>** – Change file permissions.

**chown user:group <file>** – Change ownership.

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# User and Group Management

## Users:

**id <username>** – User details.

**adduser <username>** – Add a user.

**passwd <username>** – Change user password.

## Groups:

**groups <username>** – User groups.

**usermod -aG <group> <username>** – Add user to a group.

## Logged-In Users

**who** – List logged-in users.

**last** – Login history.

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# Process Management

## View Processes:

**ps aux** – List processes.

**pgrep <name>** – Search for a process.

## Manage Processes:

**kill -9 <PID>** – Kill a process by ID.

**pkill <name>** – Kill a process by name.

## Logs:

**journalctl** – View system logs.

**dmesg** – Kernel messages.

**tail -f /var/log/<file>** – Monitor logs in real-time.

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# Networking

## Connectivity:

**curl -I <url>** – Test HTTP connection.

**ping <IP/hostname>** – Test network.

**traceroute <hostname>** – Trace network route.

## Debugging:

**telnet <host> <port>** – Test open ports.

**dig <hostname>** – DNS lookup.

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# Disk and Filesystem Management

## Filesystem:

**fsck /dev/sda1** – Check filesystem.

**mount and umount** – Mount/unmount filesystems.

## Disk Partitioning:

**fdisk -l** – Partition details.

**lsblk** – List block devices.

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# Package Management

## RHEL/CentOS:

**yum/dnf update** – Update packages.

**yum/dnf install <package>** – Install a package.

**yum/dnf remove <package>** – remove a package.

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# Backup and Archive

## Backup:

**rsync -av /source/ /destination/** – Sync files/directories.

## Archiving:

**tar -cvf archive.tar /path** – Archive files.  
**gzip archive.tar** – Compress the archive.

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# General Troubleshooting Commands

**uptime** – System uptime.

**uname -a** – Kernel and OS details.

**tcpdump** – Network packet capture.

## End-to-End Troubleshooting Example:

### 1. Identify the Issue:

Use top, df -h, or ping to gather insights.

### 2. Narrow Down Root Cause:

Use ps aux, netstat,trace the issue.

### 3. Apply Fixes:

Restart services or update packages.

### 4. Monitor Post-Fix:

Continuously monitor with journalctl or tail.

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