

# Linux Introduction

- Need to know a command line editor (vi, emacs, pico).
- Linux is version of Unix.
- Different from Proprietary Unix in implementation and management.
- Linus Torvalds - 1991
- ATT - 1969
- Universities - 1976
- BSD - 1977
- Distributions

# Information

- **man** pages
- **info** command for Texinfo documents
- HOWTO's ([www.tldp.org](http://www.tldp.org))
- Guides ([www.tldp.org](http://www.tldp.org))
- Distribution specific documentation

## **man** Pages

**Syntax:** man [options] [section] command

**-a** Display all man pages that match given name.

**-d** Display debugging information.

**-w** Print location of manpages.

**-k** keyword search. Same as **apropos**.

# **man** Page Sections

Section	The human readable name
1	User commands that may be started by everyone.
2	System calls, that is, functions provided by the kernel.
3	Subroutines, that is, library functions.
4	Devices, that is, special files in the /dev directory.
5	File format descriptions, e.g. /etc/passwd.
6	Games, self-explanatory.
7	Miscellaneous, e.g. macro packages, conventions.
8	System administration tools that only root can execute.
9	Another (Linux specific) place for kernel routine documentation.
n	(Deprecated) New documentation, that may be moved to a more appropriate section.
o	(Deprecated) Old documentation, that may be kept for a grace period.
l	(Deprecated) Local documentation referring to this particular system.

## man Page Details

- **nroff, groff**
- Source: **`/usr/share/man/manX`**
- Formatted: **`/var/cache/man/catX`**
- **MANPATH**
- **man** formats if needed and caches
- **`/etc/man.config`**

# Macros

Macro	Function
.TH	A manpage header. Includes title, section, date, description, and author
.SH	A section heading. You can add your own sections to the standard sections as required.
.PP	A paragraph separator. Without this macro, lines of text will flow together.
.TP	A hanging indent macro, used for command options.
.B	Everything on the line following this macro is bold.
.I	Everything on the line following this macro is italic.
fB	This inline macro for bold text.
fI	This inline macro for italic text.
fR	This inline macro for return to default font.
fP	This inline macro for return to previously selected font.

# Conventions

- Section Progression: Name, Synopsis, Description, Files, See, Also, Notes, Author, and Bugs
- Italics for parameters on command line.
- Italics for command, filenames, and user options.
- [cm.bell-labs.com/sys/doc/troff.html](http://cm.bell-labs.com/sys/doc/troff.html)
- [www.kohala.com/start/troff/troff.html](http://www.kohala.com/start/troff/troff.html)
- **groff -Tascii -man rm.1 | more**

.\ " DO NOT MODIFY THIS FILE! It was generated by help2man 1.24.

.TH RM "1" "April 2001" "rm (fileutils) 4.1" FSF

.SH NAME

rm \- remove files or directories

.SH SYNOPSIS

.B rm

[\fIOPTION\fR]... \fIFILE\fR...

.SH DESCRIPTION

This manual page documents the GNU version of

.BR rm .

.B rm

removes each specified file. By default, it does not remove directories.

.P

If a file is unwritable, the standard input is a tty, and the \fI\ -f\fR or \fI\ -\ -force\fR option is not given,

.B rm

prompts the user for whether to remove the file. If the response does not begin with 'y' or 'Y', the file is skipped.

.SH OPTIONS

.PP

Remove (unlink) the FILE(s).

.TP

\fB\ -d\fR, \fB\ -\ -directory\fR

unlink directory, even if non-empty (super-user only)

.TP

\fB\ -f\fR, \fB\ -\ -force\fR

ignore nonexistent files, never prompt

.TP

\fB\ -i\fR, \fB\ -\ -interactive\fR

prompt before any removal

.TP

\fB\ -r\fR, \fB\ -R\fR, \fB\ -\ -recursive\fR

remove the contents of directories recursively

```
.TP
\fB\ -v \fR, \fB\ -\ -verbose \fR
explain what is being done
.TP
\fB\ -\ -help \fR
display this help and exit
.TP
\fB\ -\ -version \fR
output version information and exit
.PP
To remove a file whose name starts with a '-', for example '-foo',
use one of these commands:
.IP
\&../src/rm \fB\ -\ -\ \fR \fB\ -foo \fR
.IP
\&../src/rm ./-foo
.PP
Note that if you use rm to remove a file,
it is usually possible to recover
the contents of that file.  If you want more
assurance that the contents are
truly unrecoverable, consider using shred.
.SH AUTHOR
Written by Paul Rubin, David MacKenzie, Richard Stallman, and Jim Meyering
.SH "REPORTING BUGS"
Report bugs to <bug-fileutils@gnu.org>.
.SH COPYRIGHT
Copyright \ (co 2001 Free Software Foundation, Inc.
.br
This is free software; see the source
for copying conditions.  There is NO
warranty; not even for MERCHANTABILITY or
FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.
.SH "SEE ALSO"
shred(1)
.PP
```

The full documentation for

`.B rm`

is maintained as a Texinfo manual. If the

`.B info`

and

`.B rm`

programs are properly installed at your site, the command

`.IP`

`.B info rm`

`.PP`

should give you access to the complete manual.

## Finding Stuff

**which** Is command in search path?

**whereis** Searches broader range of directories.

**locate** Searched pre-compiled index of files.  
Updated in **cron** with **updatedb**.