

# Unix & Linux commands and tools use in CSE Labs

## Checking account details:

Account details can be checked: **acc** or **pp**  
Disk quota used: **rquota**  
Detailed disk usage: **disk\_guess**  
Detailed print quota: **priv pquota -v**  
IP quota used: **ipq**  
Account details on web: [https://status.cse.unsw.edu.au/Control\\_Panel/](https://status.cse.unsw.edu.au/Control_Panel/)

## Changing brightness on iMac:

Changing background brightness on iMac **priv backlight <value>**, eg: **priv backlight 8**

## File management:

List current directory contents: **ls -al**  
Remove (delete) a file: **rm -i <fileName>**  
Remove a directory: **rm -ir <dirName>**  
Copy a file: **cp <fileName> <newFileName>**  
Move file or directory: **mv <fileName> <newFileName>**  
Display current working directory: **pwd**  
Create a directory: **mkdir <dirName>**  
Change working directory: **cd <dirName>**  
Check a file type: **file <fileName>**  
On-line reference manuals: **man <command>**, eg: **man ls**

## Manipulating file:

Display the contents of text file(s): **cat <fileName>**  
Browse the contents of a txt file per page: **more <fileName>** (press **q** to quit)  
Browse the contents of a txt file per line: **less <fileName>**, or **cat <fileName> | less**  
Display the first 10 lines(default) of txt files: **head <fileName>**, eg **head -50 myProgram.java**  
Display the last 10 lines(default) of txt files: **tail <fileName>**, eg **tail -20 <fileName>**  
Convert txt files from DOS to Unix format: **dos2unix <myDOSfile>**  
Convert txt files from Unix to DOS format: **unix2dos <myUnixfile>**  
Display a bin file: **strings <bin fileName>**, eg: **strings /bin/ls**

## Account management:

Change user password: **passwd**  
Change file access permissions: **chmod <option> <fileName>**

## Compressing files and directories:

Compress a file: **gzip <fileName>** or **zip <fileName>**  
Decompress a file: **gunzip <fileName>** or **unzip <fileName>**  
Compress a directory: **tar -cvf <archiveName>.tar <dirName>**  
Decompress a directory: **tar -xvf <archiveName>.tar**  
Tar and zip a directory: **tar -zcf <archiveName>.tar.gz <dirName>**  
Untar a .tar.gz or .tgz file: **tar -zxvf <fileName>.tar.gz** or **tar -zxvf <fileName>.tgz**  
Decompress files from rar archives: **unrar x <fileName>.rar**

### Changing the font size:

Inside an xterm press Ctrl+Button 3 (the right mouse button). The VT fonts menu appears which allows you to change the font size of that xterm.

### Floppy disk commands:

Disk contents:	<b>mmdir</b>
Copy file (floppy to home dir):	<b>mcopy a:/&lt;fileName&gt; .</b>
Copy file (home dir to floppy):	<b>mcopy &lt;fileName&gt; a:</b>
Delete file:	<b>mdel a:/&lt;fileName&gt;</b>
Format a floppy disk:	<b>mformat a:</b>

Note: Please view the man page for mtools for a complete description, eg: **man mtools**

### Word document:

Word processor:	<b>openoffice</b>
Text editor:	<b>vim, emacs</b>
View pdf/ps file:	<b>acroread (or xpdf)/ gv</b>
Convert a file from PS to PDF:	<b>ps2pdf &lt;fileName.ps&gt;</b>
Convert a file from PDF to PS:	<b>pdf2ps &lt;fileName.pdf&gt;</b>
Printing a text file using <b>aps</b> :	<b>aps &lt;option&gt; &lt;fileName&gt;   lpr -P&lt;printerName&gt;</b>

(for more details about printing please see *How To Print From CSE Labs* brochure)

### Graphical tools:

View an image in .jpg, gif, png, etc...	<b>display/xview &lt;fileName&gt;</b>
Manipulate and paint an image:	<b>gimp</b>
Convert between image formats, size:	<b>convert</b>
Screen capture (for gnome-session)	<b>gnome-screenshot -i</b>

### Using USB stick/CD&DVD drive:

Mount/unmount a USB stick	<b>priv usb mount/ priv usb umount</b> (the USB should be unmounted before physically remove)
Mount/unmount a CD/DVD	<b>priv cdrom mount / priv cdrom umount</b> (the cd/dvd is mounted to <b>/cdrom</b> )
Reject the CD/DVD after unmount	<b>eject</b>

Please refer to *Using a USB memory-stick/drive* brochure for more detail

### Useful tools:

Use **man** command to find out: **apropos, cal, clear (ctrl+l), echo, date, du, find, locate, ps, script, top, whereis, who, whoami**

### Book commands:

Enter into the booking system:	<b>book</b>
Book a terminal once in the system:	<b>book &lt;start time - finish time&gt;&lt;day/ date&gt;</b>
Claim a booked terminal:	<b>claim</b>
Book a terminal using a graphical interface:	<b>tkbook</b>
Book a terminal via web:	<a href="https://status.cse.unsw.edu.au/Control_Panel/">https://status.cse.unsw.edu.au/Control_Panel/</a>

### CSE Unix Primer

For more details about Linux commands: <http://www.cse.unsw.edu.au/help/doc/primer/>