
COL1000: Linux Commands Reference Guide

Quick reference extracted from Lab 1.

Opening a terminal

Press:

1 Ctrl + Alt + T

A terminal window should appear.

The six worth knowing

Command	What it does	Example
<code>pwd</code>	P rint W orking D irectory — where am I?	<code>pwd</code>
<code>ls</code>	L ist the files here	<code>ls</code>
<code>cd</code>	C hange D irectory — move into a folder	<code>cd col1000</code>
<code>touch</code>	Create a new empty file	<code>touch test.py</code>
<code>cp</code>	C opy a file	<code>cp a.py b.py</code>
<code>mv</code>	M ove a file — and this is how you rename	<code>mv old.py new.py</code>

Plus `mkdir` (make a folder) and `clear` (clear the screen).

Getting around

Symbol	Meaning
<code>.</code>	this folder
<code>..</code>	one folder up — <code>cd ..</code> goes back
<code>~</code>	your home folder — <code>cd ~</code> , or just <code>cd</code>
<code>/</code>	separates folders — <code>cd ~/col1000</code>

Tab autocompletes a file or folder name, and the Up arrow brings back previous commands.

Try it

```
1 cd
2 mkdir col1000
3 cd col1000
4 pwd
5 touch scratch.py
6 ls
7 cp scratch.py copy.py
8 mv copy.py renamed.py
9 ls
```

Running a Python file from the terminal

```
1 python3 LAB1_Q1_2026CS10123_MON1.py
```

The file has to be in your current folder. Check with `ls`.

Careful with `rm`. `rm` deletes a file, and there is no recycle bin on the terminal. Don't use it casually, and never type `rm *` or `rm -rf`.