

# Creating Linux Files and Directories

## Creating Files

To create a new file rather than copy an existing one, the uses **touch** command.

```
$ touch new.file
```

 (this creates a new, empty file)

```
ls -l new.file
```

Using Above command verifies that the file has a size of zero bytes. It might seem silly to create an empty file, but you can use them to verify that you have permission to create files in a certain directory, and some programs insist upon a control or log file even if it's empty. (The **touch** command will also update the time and date stamp on an existing file.)

Creating a new file with data in it--for example, a line of text--use the **echo** command:

```
$ echo "Remember to buy oatmeal raisin cookies." > reminder
```

This will create a file named reminder with just one line in it (the text in quotation marks). The **echo** command normally just prints a line to the screen, but here we've directed the output to a file.

To create a multiline file, use the **cat** command:

```
$ cat > fox.socks
```

Through three cheese trees three free fleas flew.

While these fleas flew, freezy breeze blew.

Freezy breeze made these three trees freeze.

Freezy trees made these trees' cheese freeze.

That's what made these three free fleas sneeze.

**^D**

The first line in the above example tells Linux what to name the new file (**fox.socks**). The typed lines that follow will become the contents of **fox.socks** new file. Pressing **ctrl-D** tells Linux that the file is done, and the cat command transfers your typing to the new file.

## Creating Directories

To create a directory uses the **mkdir** command.

### *Syntax:*

**mkdir [OPTION] DIRECTORY...**

### *Example:*

**\$ mkdir cooking**

This creates a new directory named **cooking** in the current directory.

Options which can be quite useful while creating directories.

-m, --mode=MODE	set permission mode (as in chmod), not rwxrwxrwx -umask
-p, --parents	no error if existing, make parent directories as needed
--verbose	print a message for each created directory
--help	display this help and exit
--version	output version information and exit

