

# Concept of Path

## What is a path?

A path is a unique location to a file or a folder in a file system of an OS. A path to a file is a combination of / and alpha-numeric characters.

## What is an absolute path?

An absolute path is defined as the specifying the location of a file or directory from the root directory (/). In other words we can say absolute path is a complete path from start of actual filesystem from / directory.

## What is the relative path?

Relative path is defined as path related to the present working directory (pwd). Relative pathname starts at the current directory, and it does not start with a slash.

**Note:** We can use an absolute path from any location where as if you want to use relative path we should be present in a directory where we are going to specify relative to that present working directory.

## For Example:

Present location is /var/ftp/ and change the location to /var/log

## Using relative path:

```
cd ../log
```

## Using absolute path:

```
cd /var/log
```