Terminal and Command Prompt (where the cursor blinks)

Won't be able to use the mouse to move the cursor. Case sensitive.

Home, End, arrow keys, mouse right-click.

Linux/Unix systems have a terminal available by default, listed among your Applications. File extensions are not required in Linux.

PROMPT (ends with a **$**)

diane@pop-os:~$

username @ computerName: '~' is shorthand for **/home/diane/** Cursor is blinking after the **$**, which is where your typing will appear (automatic blank space after the **$**)

PROMPT   **COMMAND**

diane@pop-os:~$ ls

This Command, all by itself, works just fine – it will list the contents of the current directory. The 'list' of directory contents will have a default format if there are no options or arguments

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PROMPT   CMD **OPTION**

diane@pop-os:~$ ls -l

Options are separated from their command by one space, and are PRECEDED by a dash. Multiple options can be listed behind a single dash. This -l option formats the 'list' of directory contents in a default format, ONE item per line. -la also lists all of the hidden files
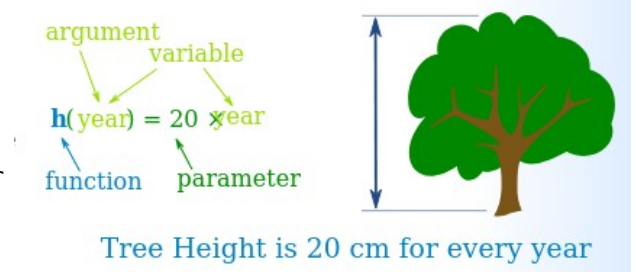

PROMPT   CMD OPT   **ARGUMENT**

diane@pop-os:~$ ls -l ~/Downloads

Many commands, in addition to various 'options' can also accept an 'argument'. In this case the 'argument' is specifying a DIFFERENT directory than the default. The default directory for the ls command is the CURRENT directory.

An argument is an input to a function, in math. They affect the function result.

In the Terminal, Options and Arguments are defined for each command – they are different from command to command.

argument
variable

h(year) = 20 x year

function   parameter

Tree Height is 20 cm for every year

Commands:

sudo – to perform important system administration tasks To execute a command as the superuser, the desired command is simply preceded with the sudo command. After the command is entered, the user is prompted for the their own password. **exit** when done. (Use only as directed.)

sudo apt update && sudo apt upgrade -y (Two commands to execute at the beginning of each day's computer usage; updates/upgrades appropriately, applying the latest approved patches/bug fixes to apps and OS; && executes the NEXT command if the first one is successful; -y option answers 'yes' to the mid-point question, in advance)

echo hello – prints to the screen, immediately below, whatever you type after 'echo' (surrounding quotation marks, both double, or both single, are ignored). If something goes wrong and a command does not complete and hangs up (displaying '**>**'), your solution is **"Ctrl-C"** – this will result in a **^C** printed to the screen, and then your **PROMPT**.

clear – erases the screen and returns PROMPT

exit – closes the terminal window

cd – 'change directory'   change directory; cd by itself takes you to your home directory; cd Downloads moves you to your Downloads directory

pwd -'print working directory' prints the complete path of the current working directory

ls – 'list' current directory contents   lists the contents of the directory you're currently in

mkdir NewDirName – 'make directory', with the name specified, inside the current directory (may precede the NewDirName with directory location: ~/Dev/NewDirName)

touch new_file.ext – 'create file'   create an empty file with the specified name inside the current directory; extension is not required.

nano file_name – open a file, using the Nano text editor, with the specified name, or create-and-open a new file, using Nano, with the specified name

mv [Option] **source destination –** rename/replace/overwrite source WITH destination (this command works with files or directories, or groups of either)
The source will no longer exist; like cut and paste; Options: -n (no-overwrite); -f (force)

tar -xzvf file.tar.gz – 'Tape Archive' extracts a gzip tar Archive using option -xzvf. (Options: -x: extract an archive file; -v: prints verbose info for any tar operation on the terminal; -z: creates a tar file using gzip compression [file should bear the .tar.gz suffix to use this option]; -f: specifiy the filename of the archive file)

man –'manual', followed by the command displays info about the command (not always user friendly)