Linux Shell Cheat Sheet

(courtesy of David Letscher)

Directories and files

ls	List contents of current directory.
pwd	Give full path of current directory.
cd {path}	Change directories to path,
	e.g. *cd sub* changes directory into the subdirectory named sub.
cd ..	Change current directory to the parent directory.
cd	Change current directory to your home directory.
mkdir {dirname}	Create a directory named dirname.
rmdir {dirname}	Remove a directory name dirname (if empty).
mv {oldname} {newname}	Move/rename a file, e.g. *mv foo foo.old* renames the file foo to foo.old.
rm {filename}	Remove/delete a file.
cp {fromname} {toname}	Copy a file, e.g. *cp foo foo.old* copies foo to foo.old
cp -R {dirname} {toname}	Copy a directory, e.g. *cp originalFiles myProject*

Getting help

man {command}	Get help on the command, e.g. *man ls* for help on the ls command.
whatis {command}	Give short description of command.
apropos {keyword}	Search for all Linux commands that match keyword.

Viewing and editing files

cat {filename}	View a file.
more {filename}	View a file one screen at a time.
emacs {filename}	Edit a file.
emacs {filename} &	Edit a file in a separate window (if graphical login)

C++

g++ -o {executableName} {sourcecode.cpp}	compile sourcecode.cpp into executable
g++ -c {sourcecode.cpp}	compile sourcecode.cpp into object code sourcecode.o
make	(re)build an executable based upon makefile.