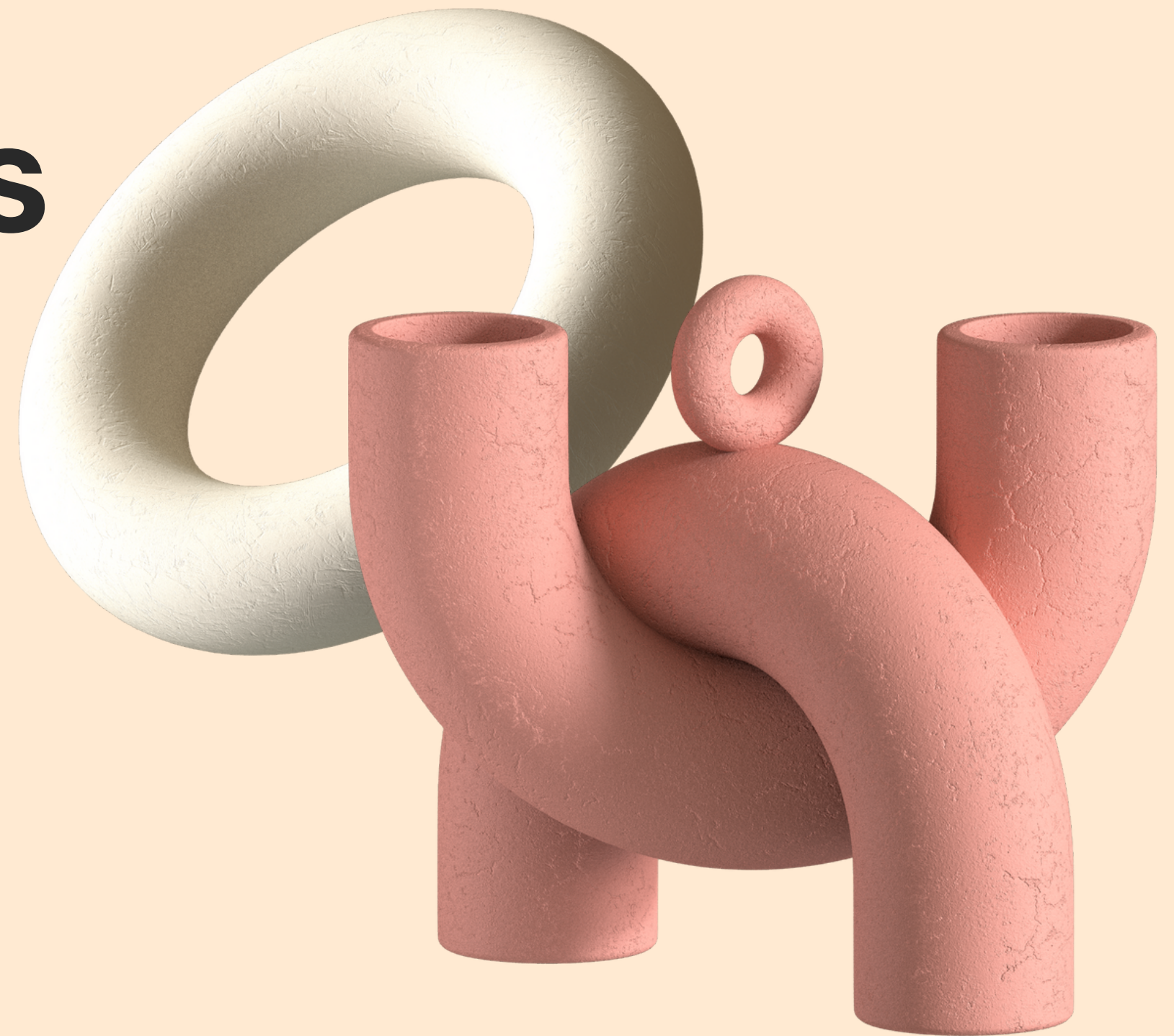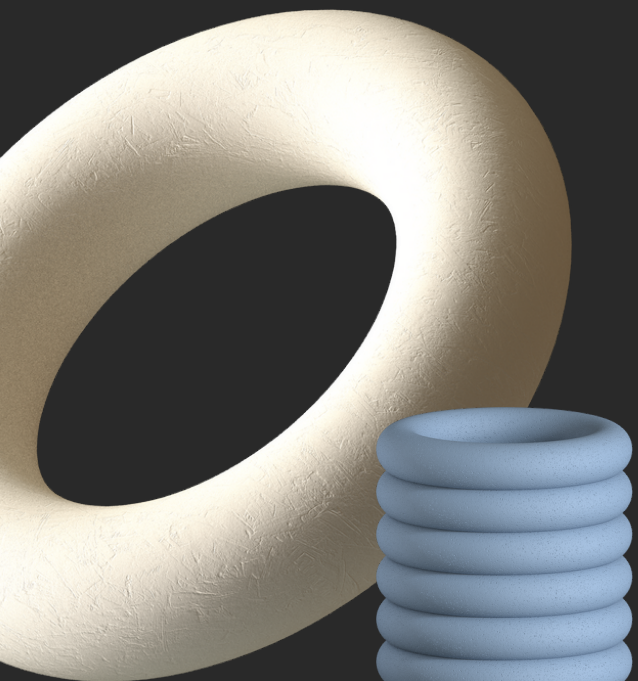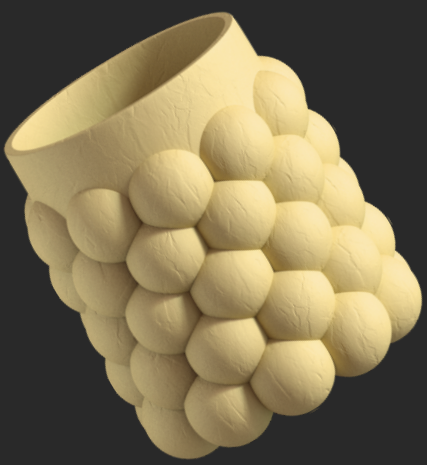# HOSTNEXTRA

Most Useful Linux Commands

The Linux command like is a text interface to shell, terminal, console, prompt, etc. It can give the appearance of being complex and confusing to use.

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List of Commands

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screen – It is a terminal multiplexer

Screen is a full-screen window manager that multiplexes a physical terminal between several processes (typically interactive shells). It is very useful when you are performing any task and your internet gets disconnected. After you connect to internet, you can find your task is still running in the screen window.

Commands:

screen -S <session name>   This command will create a screen session.

screen -list   This command will show the list of active session.

screen -r <session no.>   It will reattach to the active screen.

df – Report file system disk space usage

df displays the amount of disk space available on the file system containing each filename argument. The 'df' stands for "disk filesystem." It defines the number of blocks used, the number of blocks available, and the directory where the file system is mounted.

Commands:

df -a   This command will display all the file system.

df -l   This command will show Total Space of File Systems.

df -T <file system>   This is will display file type.

df -h   It will display human readable numbers.

crontab – Execute scheduled commands

crontab command will help you to schedule repeated task. Crontab stands for "cron table, " because it uses the job scheduler cron to execute tasks. The daemon which reads the crontab and executes the commands at the right time is called cron.
One of the format of the crontab –> 15 6 2 * * /home/david/backup.sh

Commands:

crontab -l   This command will display the list of active schedules.

crontab -e   It will edit the crontab.

crontab -u david -e   This will edit crontab of David user.

dd – Convert and copy a file

Copy a file, converting and formatting according to the operands. dd can also read and/or write from/to these files, provided that function is implemented in their respective drivers. It can copy all files from one drive to another. Also it can convert a drive to file and vice versa. In that **if** stands for input file and **of** stands for output file

Commands:

dd if=/dev/sda of=/dev/sdb   To backup the entire harddisk.

dd if=/dev/hda1 of=~/partition.img   To backup a partition in the image file.

dd if=partition.img of=/dev/hda1   To restore using the partition image file.

dd if=/dev/hda of=~/hdadisk.img   To create an image of a hard disk in the image file.

gzip – Compress or expand files

Gzip reduces the size of the named files using Lempel–Ziv coding (LZ77). Gzip is one of the most popular compression algorithms. Each single file is compressed into a single file. By default original file will be replaced by the compressed file ending with extension (.gz). Gzip keeps the original file name and timestamp in the compressed file.

Commands:

gzip file.txt   It will compress the file.

gzip -k filename   It will keep the original file.

gzip -r directory   It will compress every file in a folder and subfolder.

find – Search for files in a directory

Find command search for files in a directory hierarchy. It can be used to find files and directories and perform subsequent operations on them. It can perform the search operation with variety of conditions like you can find files by permissions, users, groups, file types, date, size, and other possible criteria.

Commands:

find . -name file.txt   Search in current directory using file name.

find /home -name file.txt   Search file in home directory.

find . -type f -name "*.php"   Search all .php files in current directory.

 # find . -type f -perm 0777 -print   Search all files whose permissions are.

xargs – build and execute command

xargs reads items from the standard input and build and executes commands. It can take output of a command and passes it as argument of another command. It converts input from standard input into arguments to a command.

Commands:

ls *upload* | xargs wc   It will find upload file name and count lines/words.

xargs -a rss_links.txt   Read items from a file instead of standard input

echo "dir1 dir2" | xargs -t mkdir   It will create directory with string provided by echo.

cut -d: -f1 < /etc/passwd | sort | xargs   List all Linux user accounts.

tee – Read and write from standard input

It reads the standard input and writes it to both the standard output and one or more files. tee is usually part of a pipeline, and any number of commands can precede or follow it. It does both the tasks simultaneously, copies the result into the specified file

Commands:

df -h | tee disk_usage.txt   Copy the output of df command & save in the file.

df -h | tee file1.out file2.out   Write multiple files.

df -h | tee file.out >/dev/null   It will hide the output.

dmesg – Print or control the kernel buffer

The dmesg command is a Linux utility that displays information about hardware, device driver initialization, and messages from kernel modules. A system passes multiple runlevel from where we can get lot of information like system architecture, cpu, attached device, RAM etc. It displays the messages from the kernel ring buffer.

Commands:

dmesg -T   Human readable time and date format.

dmesg | grep sda   List all detected devices.

dmesg -c   It will clear all logs.

tail – Output the last part of files

tail command print the last 10 lines of each FILE to standard output. With more than one FILE, precede each with a header giving the file name. It is the complementary of head command.The tail command, as the name implies, print the last N number of data of the given input.

Commands:

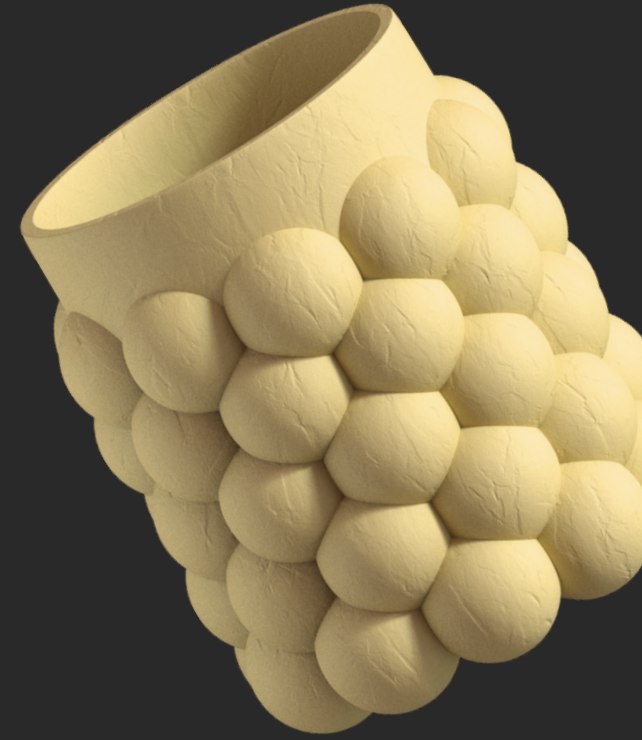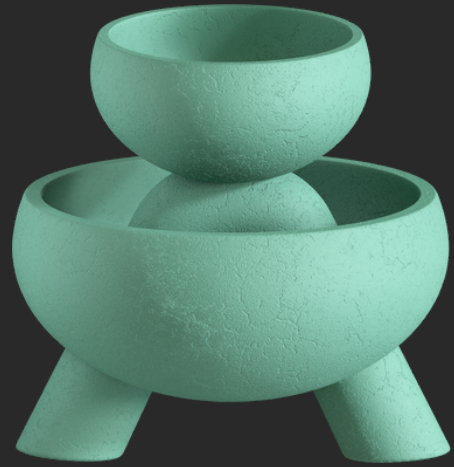# tail file.txt   Displays the last ten lines of the file.

tail -n <number of lines> file.txt   Display the number of line that we mention.

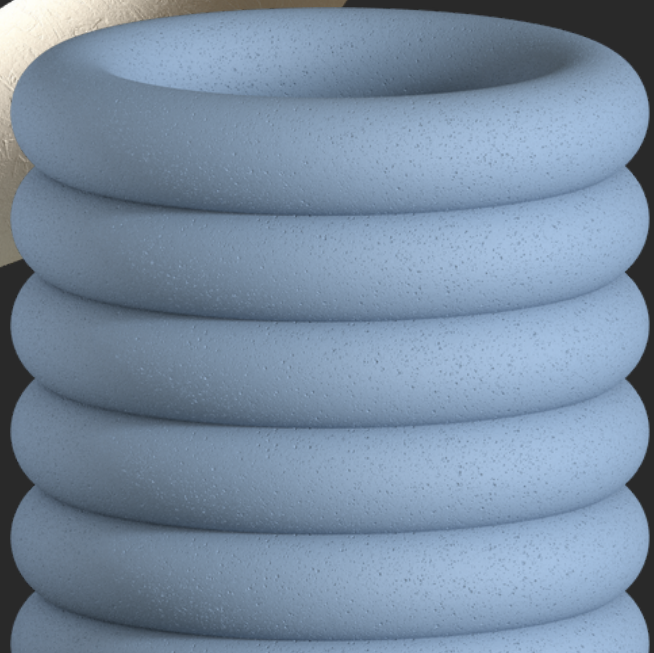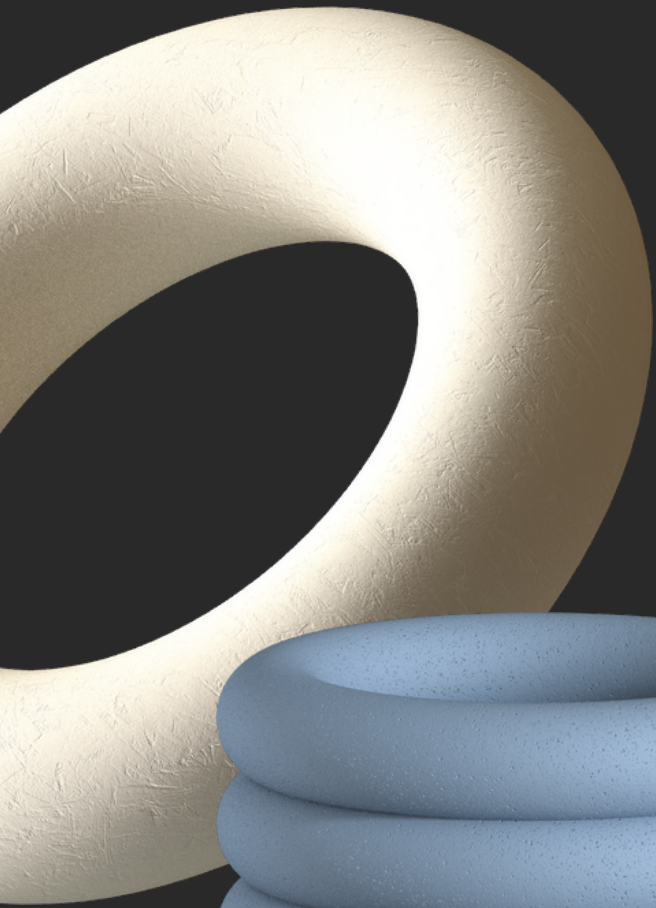# tail -f logfile   Output appended data as the file grows.

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Thank you.

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