

Mastering the Development Environment

From Linux Fundamentals to Modern Workflows



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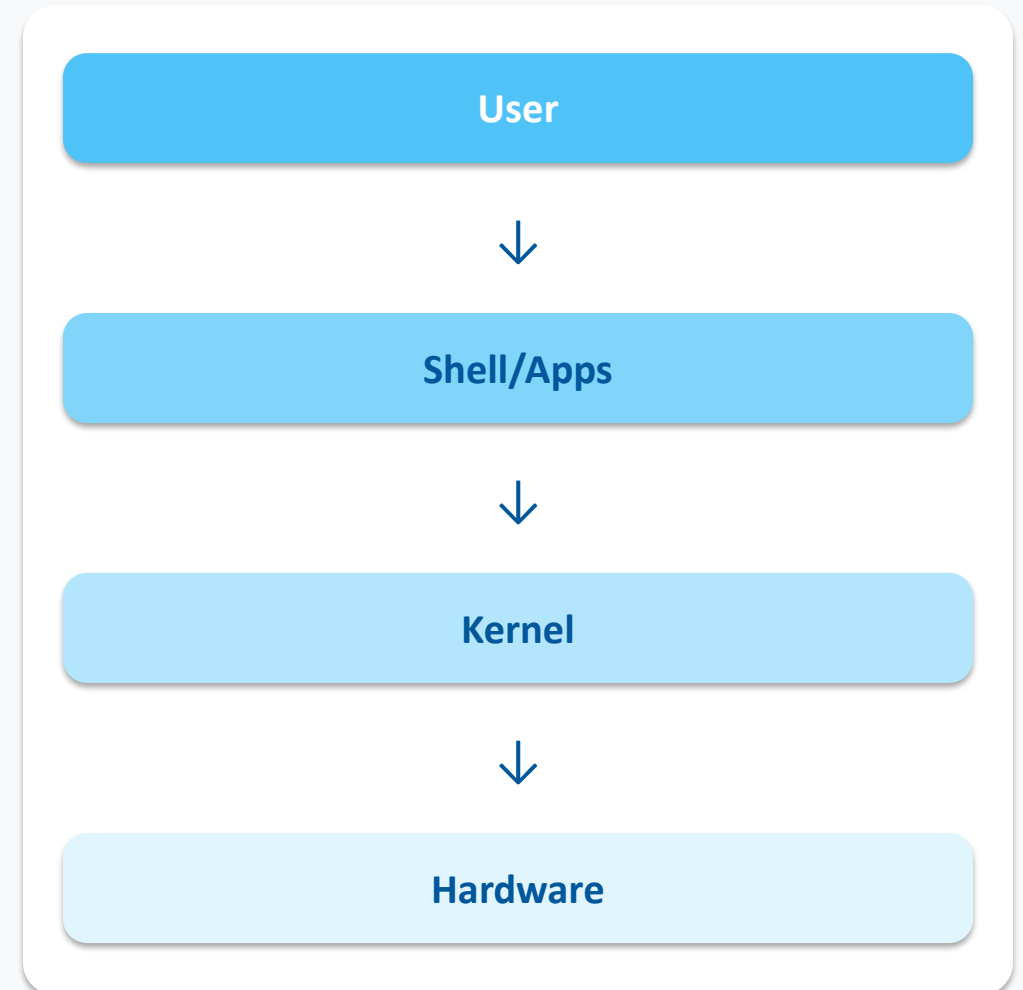
Course: Open Source Tools

What is Linux? More Than an OS

Linux is a family of open-source, Unix-like operating systems.

The Core Components:

-  **The Kernel**
The core program that manages hardware
-  **System Tools (GNU)**
The essential utilities (shell, compilers, commands,)
-  **The Shell**
A command-line interface for interacting with the system
-  **Together, this is often called GNU/Linux**



Linux Distributions: Different Flavors

A Distribution (Distro) is a ready-to-install OS package built on Linux.

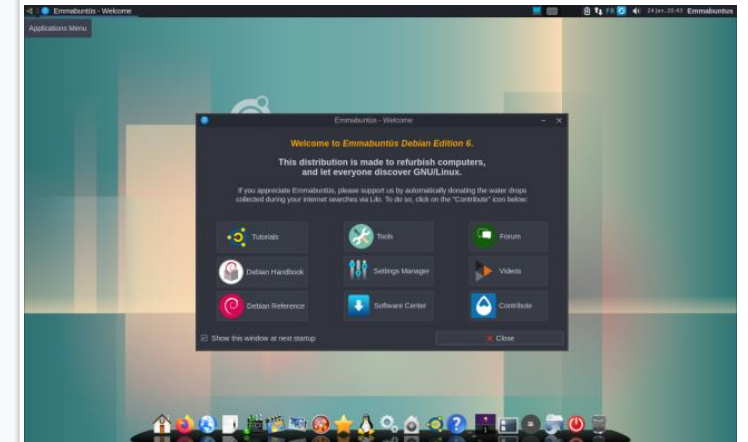
What's in a Distro?

- ⚙️ **The Linux Kernel**
- 📦 **A package manager**
For installing software
- 💻 **A desktop environment**
The GUI
- 🗖️ **Pre-installed applications**

🔗 [DistroWatch.com](https://distrowatch.com)



Ubuntu
Great for
beginners



Debian
Known for its
stability

Why Linux for Development?



Ubiquity

Powers most web servers, cloud infrastructure, and supercomputers



Powerful Command Line

The shell is a developer's superpower for automation and scripting



Native Tooling

Programming languages (Python, C++) and tools (Git, Docker) are designed for Linux first



Package Managers

Install libraries and tools with a single command (e.g., apt, dnf)



Stability & Control

Less bloat, more control over your environment

Development Ecosystem



Servers



Terminal



Toolbox



Security

Getting Hands-On: The Terminal

The Terminal is your text-based window to control the computer.

Key Components:



The Terminal

Text-based window to control the computer



The Shell

Program inside terminal that interprets commands
(Bash, Zsh)



The Prompt

user@computer:~\$

```
user @computer : ~$
```

► Your first command: whoami

A screenshot of a terminal window titled "Terminal". The window has a dark gray background and a title bar with three colored buttons (red, yellow, green). The terminal shows the following text:

```
user@computer:~$ ls
Documents Downloads Music Pictures Videos
user@computer:~$ whoami
user
user@computer:~$
```

The Essential Toolchain

Every developer needs a basic set of tools:



Text Editor

To write code efficiently with syntax highlighting and features



Compiler/Interpreter

To turn code into a running program



Version Control

To track changes and collaborate effectively



Code Editor



Compiler



Terminal



Output

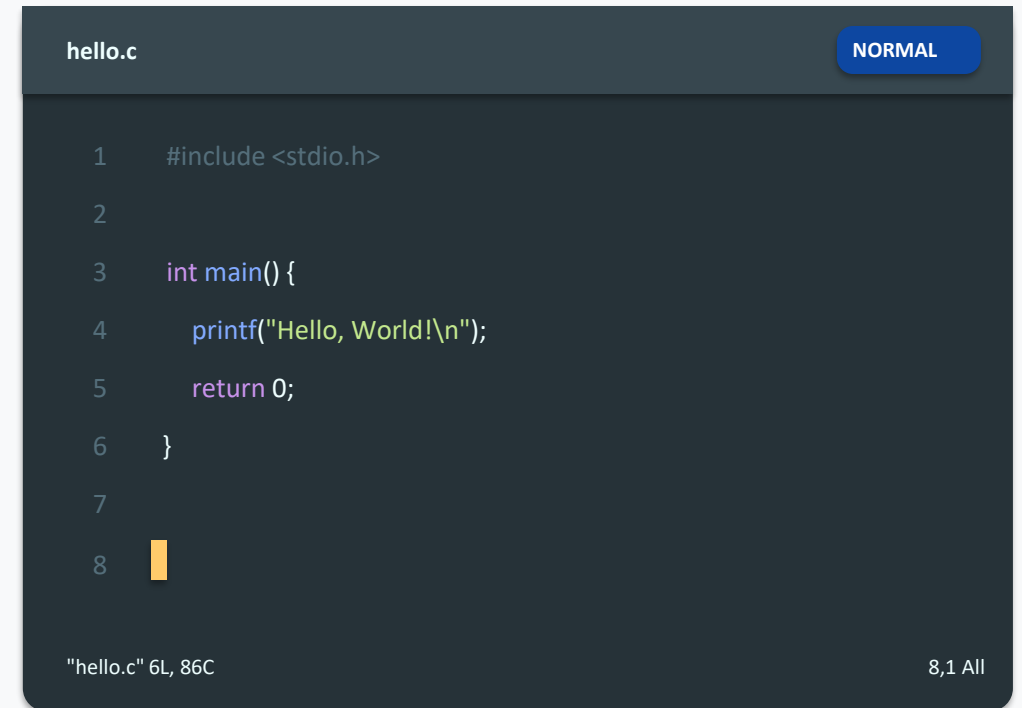
Vim: The Ubiquitous Editor

A powerful, **modal text editor** that runs entirely in the terminal.

Why learn it? It's pre-installed on almost every Linux server and macOS machine.

Modal Editing:

- ▲ **Normal Mode**
For navigation and commands (Press ESC)
- ✎ **Insert Mode**
For typing text (Press i)
- 📄 **Command-Line Mode**
For saving and quitting (Press :)



The screenshot shows the Vim editor interface with a dark theme. The file name 'hello.c' is in the top left, and 'NORMAL' mode is indicated in the top right. The code is as follows:

```
1  #include <stdio.h>
2
3  int main() {
4      printf("Hello, World!\n");
5      return 0;
6  }
7
8  |
```

The cursor is at the end of line 8. The status line at the bottom shows '"hello.c" 6L, 86C' on the left and '8,1 All' on the right.

Survival Commands:

Start typing

ESC Back to Normal Mode

:wq Save and Quit

:q! Quit without saving

🎓 **Type vimtutor in your terminal for the best interactive guide**

Compiling Code with GCC

GCC (GNU Compiler Collection) is the original open-source compiler.

It turns human-readable source code (e.g., C, C++) into machine-executable programs.

The Basic Workflow:

1 Write code
Create **hello.c** with an editor (Vim!)

2 Compile it
`gcc -o hello hello.c`

3 Run it
`./hello`

💡 GCC is used to build the Linux kernel itself and countless other open-source projects

Compilation Process

📄 hello.c



GCC

GNU Compiler Collection



▶ hello (executable)

The Power of the Package Manager

An "**App Store**" for your command line that automates installing, updating, and removing software and its dependencies.

Examples by Distro:



Ubuntu/Debian

```
sudo apt install git
```



Fedora/RHEL

```
sudo dnf install git
```



Arch/Manjaro

```
sudo pacman -S git
```

Core Commands:

Command Line App Store



update

Refresh the list
of available
software



install

Install a new
package



upgrade

Upgrade all
installed
packages



Instead of searching the web for software,
you use your package manager

One command to install anything

It handles all the messy details,
like finding and installing required libraries

Essential Command-Line Tools

These tools are the "**swiss army knife**" of the command line.



grep

Searches for text patterns within files

```
grep "error" logfile.txt
```



man

Your built-in manual for commands

```
man ls
```



sudo

"SuperUser Do" - runs commands with administrative privileges

```
sudo apt update
```



chmod

Changes file permissions (read, write, execute)

```
chmod 755 script.sh
```



ssh

Securely connects to a remote server

```
ssh user@server.com
```

Introduction to Build Systems: Make

For complex projects, typing long gcc commands is **inefficient**.

- 🔧 **make automates the build process**
It reads instructions from a file called Makefile
- ▶ **Simple execution**
You simply run **make** in the terminal
- 🔄 **Dependency management**
Only rebuilds what has changed

📄 Example Makefile for a C project:

```
hello : hello.c
    gcc -o hello hello.c
```

```
$ make
```

📄 Makefile

```
# Simple Makefile for hello.c

hello : hello.c
    gcc -o hello hello.c

clean :
    rm -f hello

# Usage:
# make - builds the program
# make clean - removes the executable
```

💡 **make understands dependencies. If hello.c changes, make will recompile it. If it hasn't changed, it does nothing.**

The Modern Code Editor: VS Code

A **free, open-source, cross-platform** editor from Microsoft.

Strikes a perfect balance between a simple text editor and a full-blown IDE.

Key Features:



Syntax Highlighting & IntelliSense

Smart code completion and error detection



Integrated Debugging

Set breakpoints, step through code, inspect variables



Integrated Terminal

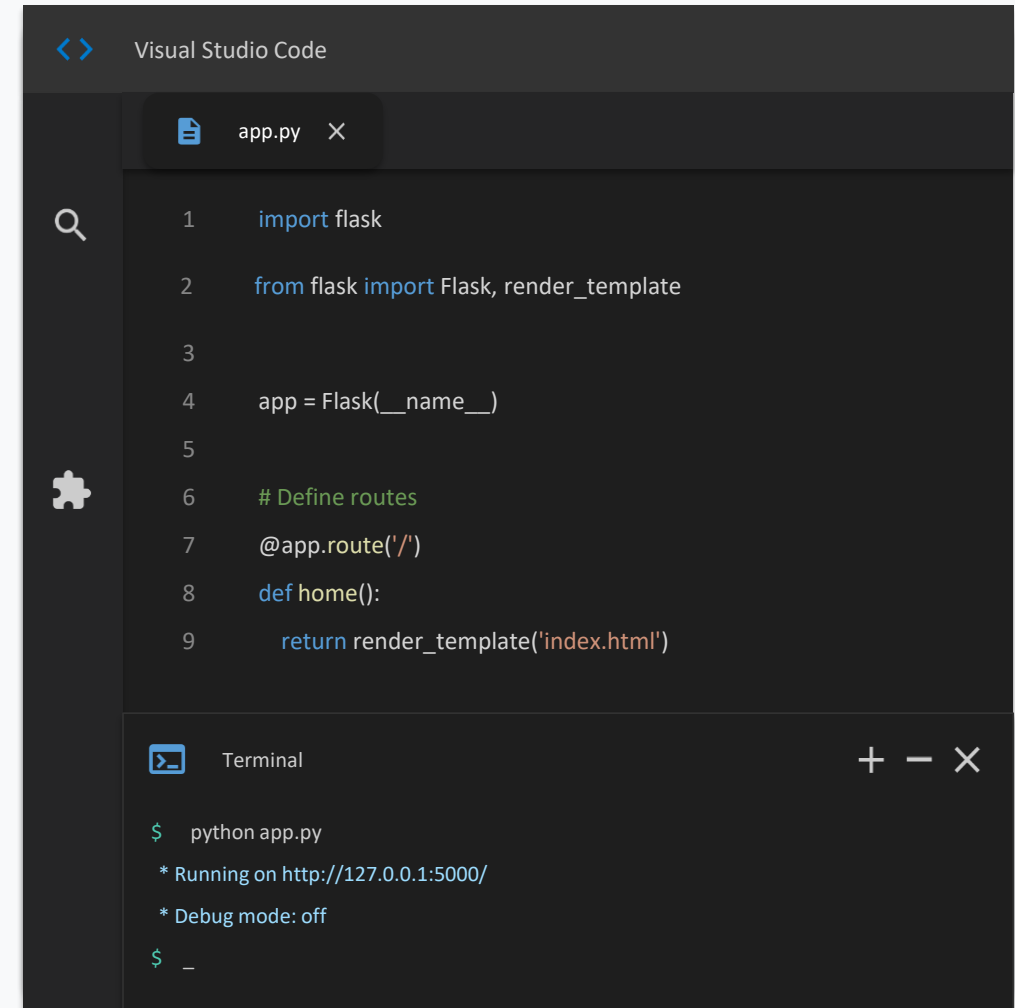
Run shell commands without leaving the editor



Extensible Marketplace

Add languages, themes, and tools via extensions

code.visualstudio.com



The Integrated Development Environment (IDE)

An IDE is an **all-in-one suite** for software development that includes code editor, compiler, debugger, and version control, all tightly integrated.

IDE vs. Code Editors



IDEs

Heavier, more features, often language-specific



Code Editors (VS Code)

Lighter, faster, highly customizable via extensions



The line between a powerful editor like VS Code and a lightweight IDE is blurring

Popular Open-Source IDEs



Eclipse

Primarily for Java development



PyCharm Community Edition

Specialized for Python development



IntelliJ IDEA Community

Supports multiple JVM languages

Version Control with Git: The Basics

Git is the most widely used **modern version control system**.

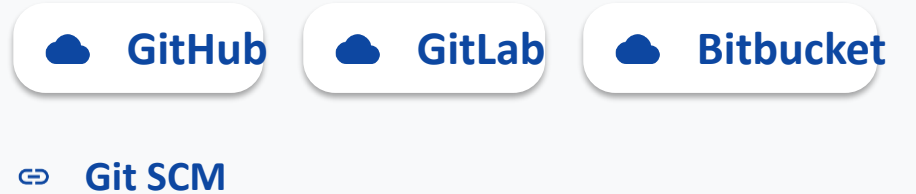
It tracks changes to your code over time, allowing you to revert files or entire projects to a previous state.

Basic Workflow:

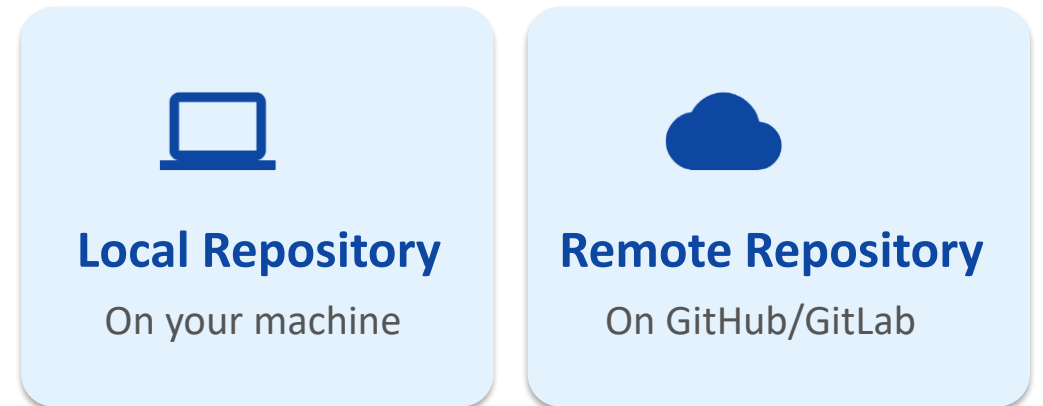
1 Create a new repository
`git init`

2 Stage your changes
`git add`

3 Save a snapshot of your changes
`git commit -m "message"`



Git Repository Structure



Recap: Your Developer Toolkit



The Foundation



Linux OS



The Classics



Vim



GCC



Make



The Modern Powerhouse



VS Code



Git



Thank You!



Resources for Your Journey



Linux Command Line

Linux Journey



Vim

vimtutor (in your terminal)



Git

Pro Git Book (Free!)



VS Code

Official Documentation



Questions?