

Adding & Removing Users

Linux also provides the `useradd`, `usermod`, and `userdel` command to manage user accounts. All these commands take in their information as options on the command line. If an option is not specified, they use predetermined default values. These are command line operations.

To use them on your desktop, you first need to open a terminal window (right click the desktop and select open terminal), and then enter the commands at the shell prompt.

useradd

With the `useradd` command, you enter values as options on the command line, such as the name of a user, to create a user account. Then it creates a new login and directory for that name using all the default features for a new account.

```
#useradd bharat
```

useradd Command Option

Sr.No	Option	Description
01	-d dir	Sets the home directory of the new user.
02	-D	Displays default for all settings.
03	-e mm/dd/yy	Sets an expiration date for the account.
04	-f days	Sets the number of days an account remains active after its password expires.
05	-g group	Sets a group.
06	-m	Creates user's home directory if it does not exist.
07	-m -r skel-dir	Sets the skeleton directory that holds skeleton files, such as .profile file which are copied to the user's home directory automatically when it is created. Default is /etc/skel.
08	-M	Does not create user's home directory.
09	-p password	Supplies an encrypted password (crypt or MD5). With no argument, the account is immediately disabled.
10	-s shell	Sets the login shell of the new user. It is /bin/bash by default. The BASH shell.
11	-u userid	Sets the user ID of the new user. The default is the increment of the highest number used so far.

usermod

The `usermod` command enables you to change the value for any of these features. You can change the home directory or the user ID. You can even change the username for the account. The `usermod` command takes the same options as `useradd`.

userdel

When you want to remove a user from the system, you can use the `userdel` command to delete the user's login. With the `-r` option, the user's home directory will also be removed. In the next example, the user `bharat` is removed from the system.

```
#userdel -r bharat
```