

\$ rm

Master rm — Interactively

Why the terminal is the fastest way to clean up files

GO

Instant feedback

Press Enter, see it happen — no compiling.

RE

Learn by tweaking

Change one flag, rerun, and watch it change.

IO

Real files, real power

Delete files and folders instantly.

OK

Zero setup

Built into every Linux system — just open a shell.



user@linux: ~

```
$ rm old_file.txt
```

Deleted!

~10 sec

01

Delete A Single File

Remove a file permanently from disk

- `rm` file deletes it immediately, no trash bin
- Double-check the filename before you press Enter
- There's no built-in undo for `rm`

SYNTAX

```
rm old_file.txt
```

A terminal window with a dark background and a title bar showing 'user@linux: ~'. The terminal displays the command '\$ rm old_file.txt' in green text. Below the command, the word 'Deleted!' is displayed in a large, bold, green font.

02

Delete A Folder's Contents

Remove an entire directory tree at once

- `-r` deletes folders recursively
- Every file and subfolder is removed too
- Use with real caution — it's permanent

SYNTAX

```
rm -r old_folder/
```



user@linux: ~

```
$ rm -r old_folder/
```

Folder deleted



03

Confirm Before Deleting

Add a safety check before anything is removed

- -i asks "remove file?" before each delete
- A safer habit than `rm -f` for beginners
- Type `y` to confirm, `n` to skip that file

SYNTAX

```
rm -i notes.txt
```



user@linux: ~

```
$ rm -i notes.txt
```

```
rm: remove notes.txt?
```

y → **Deleted**



04

Force Delete, No Prompts

Skip confirmations for scripts and bulk cleanup

- -f forces deletion, no prompts, no errors
- Combine -rf to force-delete whole folders
- Powerful but unforgiving — use carefully

SYNTAX

```
rm -rf temp/
```



A terminal window with a dark background and a title bar showing 'user@linux: ~'. The command '\$ rm -rf temp/' is entered in green text. Below the command, the output 'temp/ removed' is displayed in large, bold, orange text.

```
user@linux: ~  
  
$ rm -rf temp/  
  
temp/ removed
```



```
$ echo "Thanks for watching!"
```

Thank You For Watching

You just learned 4 real rm moves — now go run them yourself.

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