

`$ touch`

Master touch — Interactively

Why the terminal is the fastest way to create 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

Create empty files or update timestamps.

OK

Zero setup

Built into every Linux system — just open a shell.



user@linux: ~

```
$ touch notes.txt
```

Created!

~10 sec



01

Create An Empty File

Make a brand-new, empty file in one command

- touch name creates the file if it doesn't exist
- The file starts at zero bytes, ready to edit
- The fastest way to scaffold new files

SYNTAX

```
touch notes.txt
```

A terminal window with a dark background and light green text. The window title bar shows 'user@linux: ~' and three colored window control buttons (red, yellow, green). The terminal shows the command '\$ touch notes.txt' followed by the output 'Created!' in a large, bold font.

```
user@linux: ~  
$ touch notes.txt  
  
Created!
```



02

Update A File's Timestamp

Mark a file as freshly modified without editing it

- touch on an existing file updates its time
- The content stays exactly the same
- Useful for triggering rebuilds that check dates

SYNTAX

```
touch app.js
```



user@linux: ~

```
$ touch app.js
```

Timestamp updated



03

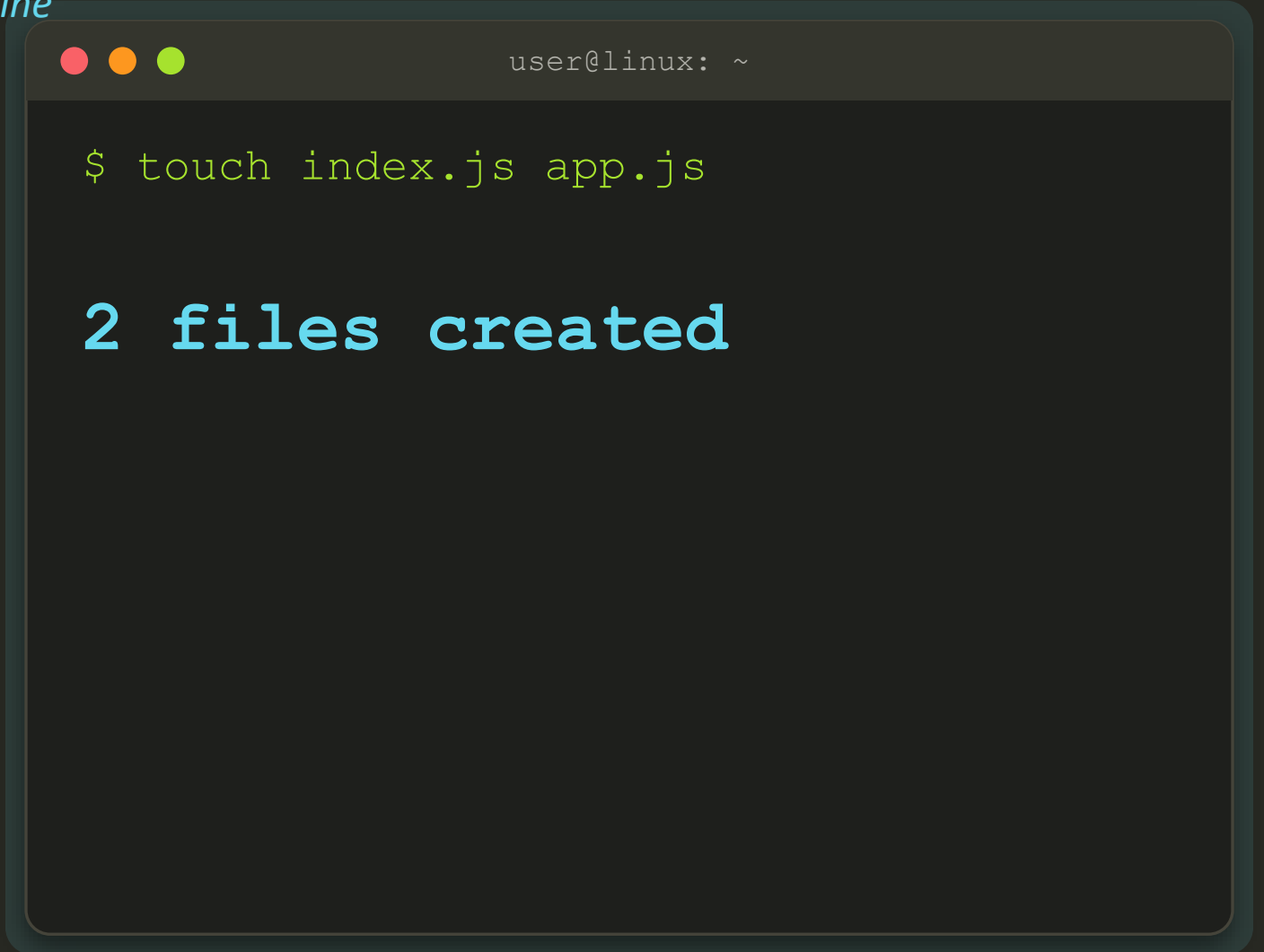
Create Several Files At Once

Scaffold multiple empty files in one line

- List several filenames separated by spaces
- Each one is created independently
- Great for setting up a new project's files

SYNTAX

```
touch index.js app.js
```



```
user@linux: ~  
  
$ touch index.js app.js  
  
2 files created
```

04

Set A Specific Timestamp

Backdate or future-date a file on purpose

- -t sets an exact date and time
- Format is YYYYMMDDhhmm
- Useful for testing or restoring file history

SYNTAX

```
touch -t 202401011200 f
```



```
user@linux: ~  
  
$ touch -t \  
202401011200 old.log  
  
old.log  
  
Jan 1, 2024
```



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

Thank You For Watching

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

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