FreeDOS is a complete, free, DOS-compatible operating system.
Use this cheat sheet to help you with the most common commands.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?	HOW TO DO IT ON FREEDOS:	SIMILAR COMMAND ON LINUX:
List directory contents	DIR	ls
-in the directory "above"	DIR ..	ls ..
-in a different directory	DIR C:\FDOS\BIN	ls /usr/bin
Change the current drive	D:	
Change the current directory	CD \FDOS\BIN	cd /usr/bin
-"up" one directory	CD ..	cd ..
Display the contents of a file	TYPE FILE.TXT	cat file.txt
-one screen at a time	MORE FILE.TXT	less file.txt
Copy a file	COPY FILE.TXT NEW.TXT	cp file.txt new.txt
Delete a file	DEL FILE.TXT	rm file.txt
Copy a directory and its contents	XCOPY DIR NEWDIR	cp -r dir newdir
Delete a directory and its contents	DELTREE MYFILES	rm -rf myfiles
Create a new directory	MKDIR NEWDIR	mkdir newdir
Remove an empty directory	RMDIR MYFILES	rmdir myfiles
Rename a file or directory	REN FILE.TXT FILE.OLD	mv file.txt file.old
Show all lines that contain "Hello"	FIND "Hello" FILE.TXT	grep "Hello" file.txt
-without regard to case	FIND /I "Hello" FILE.TXT	grep -i "Hello" file.txt
Clear the screen	CLS	clear
Edit a text file	EDIT FILE.TXT	vi file.txt
View and set the system date	DATE	date
View and set the system time	TIME	date
Show the usage for a program	DIR /? (for most programs)	ls --help
Get more help	HELP	info
Show the command history	HISTORY	history
Show the DOS version	VER	uname

Batch scripts

Reference normal batch script variables by enclosing the variable name with **%**, such as **%PATH%**

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?	HOW TO DO IT IN A BATCH SCRIPT:
Execute another batch script from within a script	**CALL SCRIPT.BAT**
Run a command for each file in a list	**FOR %%F IN (*.TXT) DO EDIT %%F** or at the command line: **FOR %F IN (*.TXT) DO EDIT %F** The loop variable name can only be one character
Print output	**ECHO Hello world**
Jump to a label in a batch file	**:LOOP** **GOTO LOOP**
Test the value of a string	**IF %VAR%==1 ECHO One**
Test if a file exists	**IF EXIST TEMP.DAT DEL TEMP.DAT**
Test the return value of the previous command	**IF ERRORLEVEL 0 ECHO Success**
Test the opposite of something (works for all **IF**s)	**IF NOT ERRORLEVEL 0 ECHO Fail**
Set the shell's search path for programs	**PATH C:\FDOS\BIN;C:\MY\BIN** or to reference the existing path: **PATH %PATH%;C:\MY\BIN** Use **;** to separate paths
A comment in a batch script	**REM This is a comment**
Set a variable	**SET TEMPFILE=TEMP.DAT**
Shift the command line options to a batch script	**SHIFT** or **SHIFT 1** or any n Reference command line options as **%1**, **%2**, and so on

A few things to remember

NOTES:	FOR EXAMPLE:
DOS commands can be upper or lowercase	**DIR** is the same as **dir**
Pipes (**I**) are the same on DOS as on Linux	**TYPE FILE.TXT I MORE**
Output redirection (**>**) is the same too	**FIND "X" FILE.TXT > X.TXT**
. and **..** are the same on DOS as on Linux	**CD ..** moves "up" one directory
The directory separator is ****	**C:** or **C:\FDOS** or **C:\FDOS\BIN**
File names can only be 8.3 characters	**FILENAME.EXT**
DOS uses letters for each drive	**C:** is the first hard drive
A full path is a drive letter and a directory path	**C:** or **C:\FDOS** or **D:\GAMES**