Ubuntu Reference

Privileges

sudo *command* – run *command* as root
sudo -s – open a root shell
sudo -s -u *user* – open a shell as *user*
sudo -k – forget sudo passwords
gksudo *command* – visual sudo dialog (GNOME)
kdesudo *command* – visual sudo dialog (KDE)
sudo visudo – edit /etc/sudoers
gksudo nautilus – root file manager (GNOME)
kdesudo konqueror – root file manager (KDE)
passwd – change your password

Display

sudo /etc/init.d/gdm restart – restart X and return to login (GNOME)
sudo /etc/init.d/kdm restart – restart X and return to login (KDE)
(file) **/etc/X11/xorg.conf** – display configuration
sudo dexconf – reset xorg.conf configuration
Ctrl+Alt+Bksp – restart X display if frozen
Ctrl+Alt+F*N* – switch to tty *N*
Ctrl+Alt+F7 – switch back to X display

System Services[1]

start *service* – start job *service* (Upstart)
stop *service* – stop job *service* (Upstart)
status *service* – check if *service* is running (Upstart)
/etc/init.d/*service* start – start *service* (SysV)
/etc/init.d/*service* stop – stop *service* (SysV)
/etc/init.d/*service* status – check *service* (SysV)
/etc/init.d/*service* restart – restart *service* (SysV)
runlevel – get current runlevel

Package Management[1]

apt-get update – refresh available updates
apt-get upgrade – upgrade all packages
apt-get dist-upgrade – upgrade with package replacements; upgrade Ubuntu version
apt-get install *pkg* – install *pkg*
apt-get purge *pkg* – uninstall *pkg*
apt-get autoremove – remove obsolete packages
apt-get -f install – try to fix broken packages
dpkg --configure -a – try to fix broken packages
dpkg -i *pkg.deb* – install file *pkg.deb*
(file) **/etc/apt/sources.list** – APT repository list

Network

ifconfig – show network information
iwconfig – show wireless information
sudo iwlist scan – scan for wireless networks
sudo /etc/init.d/networking restart – reset network for manual configurations
(file) **/etc/network/interfaces** – manual configuration
ifup *interface* – bring *interface* online
ifdown *interface* – disable *interface*

Special Packages

ubuntu-desktop – standard Ubuntu environment
kubuntu-desktop – KDE desktop
xubuntu-desktop – XFCE desktop
ubuntu-minimal – core Ubuntu utilities
ubuntu-standard – standard Ubuntu utilities
ubuntu-restricted-extras – non-free, but useful
kubuntu-restricted-extras – KDE of the above
xubuntu-restricted-extras – XFCE of the above
build-essential – packages used to compile programs
linux-image-generic – latest generic kernel image
linux-headers-generic – latest build headers

Firewall[1]

ufw enable – turn on the firewall
ufw disable – turn off the firewall
ufw default allow – allow all connections by default
ufw default deny – drop all connections by default
ufw status – current status and rules
ufw allow *port* – allow traffic on *port*
ufw deny *port* – block *port*
ufw deny from *ip* – block *ip* adress

Application Names

nautilus – file manager (GNOME)
dolphin – file manager (KDE)
konqueror – web browser (KDE)
kate – text editor (KDE)
gedit – text editor (GNOME)

System

Recovery - Type the phrase "REISUB" while holding down Alt and SysRq (PrintScrn) with about 1 second between each letter. Your system will reboot.
lsb_release -a – get Ubuntu version
uname -r – get kernel version
uname -a – get all kernel information