## Appendix A -- Basic UNIX Commands

This section contains a brief description of some of the more useful UNIX commands. To get detailed descriptions, refer to Volume 1, Section 1 of the *UNIX Programmer's Manual.*

| BASIC COMMANDS | |
|---|---|
| Synopsis | Function |
| % **man -k** *keyword* | Locate commands pertaining to *keyword.* |
| % **apropos** *keyword* | Same as **man -k** *keyword.* |
| % **man** *command* | Display the on-line manual entry for *command.* |
| % **whatis** *command* | Describe what *command* does. |
| % **ls [-al]** | List contents of current directory (-al are options). |
| % **more** *file* | Print *file* one terminal screen at a time. |
| % **mv** *file1 file2* | Move (rename) *file1* to *file2.* |
| % **cp** *file1 file2* | Copy contents of *file1* to *file2.* |
| % **rm** *file* | Remove (delete) *file.* |
| % **diff** *file1 file2* | Compare two files and display their differences. |
| % **file** *file* | Determine file type. |
| % **chmod** *mode file* | Alter read/write/execute permissions of *file.* |
| % **mkdir** *dirname* | Create a subdirectory. |
| % **rmdir** *dirname* | Remove a subdirectory. |
| % **cd** *dirname* | Change the working directory. |
| % **vi** *filename* | Use the **vi** editor; to write and quit type **:wq.** |
| % **emacs** *filename* | Use the **emacs** editor; to write and quit type **^x ^c.** |
| % **quota** | Display disk usage and maximum limit. |
| % **du** | Summarize disk usage. |
| % **mail** *username* | Send mail to the person identified by *username.* |
| % **mail** | Read mail. |
| % **rlogin** *name* | Login remotely on the RT called *name.* |
| % **jobs** | List jobs running in this shell. |
| % **ps** | Give status and process numbers of running processes. |
| % **kill** *pid* | Terminate process with process number *pid.* |
| % **yppasswd** | Change user password. |
| % **ypchfn** | Add your real name (and phone number) to password file. |
| % **who am i** | Tell who's logged into this terminal. |
| % **finger** | List logged in users with description of each. |
| % **finger** *name* | Give information about specific user. |