Linux Handy Hints

Where am I!?

If you get lost, **pwd** will always tell you where you are, but you can also take a glance at PuTTY's title bar. Note how it tells you too!

Special keys

Typing long file or directory names is annoying, but luckily there's an easier way. You only need to type *part* of a name and then hit the **TAB** key – Linux will autocomplete the rest of it for you. You can also use **HOME** to jump the cursor to the start of a line, and **END** to jump to the end of a line.

What have I done?

The up and down arrow keys can be used to scroll backwards and forwards through recently entered commands. Resubmit a command by hitting **ENTER**, or even edit and then resubmit – this is great for when you've mistyped a long path and need to try again without having to retype everything.

You can also use the **history** command to display a recent history of everything you've typed:

```
959 cd /mnt/shared/

960 ls -l

961 cd public/

962 ls -l

963 cd training/

964 ls -l

965 cd introToBioinformatics/

966 ls -l
```

If you see an entry you want to re-run, use the ! (always called *bang* in the Linux world), followed by the number of the command as shown by **history**. For example:

1960

You can use !! on its own to instantly repeat the previous command.

Using the mouse in the command line

You can't click the mouse cursor around the Linux command prompt like you're used to, but it *does* still offer basic cut and paste. Drag with the mouse to highlight text, then simply right-click to paste it back into the window. You can also double-click a word (eg a filename) and instantly copy it into your current command with a right-click.