

Fundamentals of UNIX
Lab 10.4.1 – Changing Permissions with File Manager
(Estimated time: 30 min.)

Objectives:

- Access File Manager to work with file and directory permissions
- Determine file permissions with File Manager
- Change file permissions with File Manager
- Determine folder permissions with File Manager
- Change folder permissions with File Manager

Background:

In this lab you will work with the Common Desktop Environment (CDE) File Manager to analyze and make changes to file system permissions. The CDE File Manager utility provides a graphical interface to the file system and can be used to view or change file and folder permissions.

Tools / Preparation:

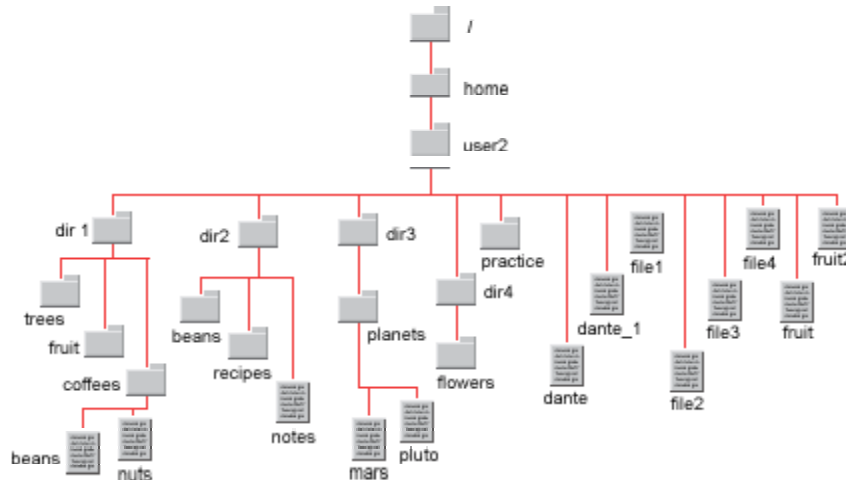
- a) Before starting this lab, review Chapter 10, Section 4 – Changing Permissions with File Manager
- b) You will need the following:
 - 1. A login user ID (e.g. user2) and password assigned by your instructor.
 - 2. A computer running the UNIX operating system with CDE
 - 3. Networked computers in classroom with the class file system installed

Notes:

Worksheet

Use the diagram of the sample Class File System folder tree to assist with this lab.

Class File Tree Structure



Step 1. Log in to CDE

Login with the user name and password assigned to you by your instructor in the CDE entry box.

Step 2. Access File Manager

File Manager can be accessed by clicking the **File Drawer** icon on the **Front Panel** or by right clicking on the **workspace desktop** and then on the **Files** menu. The File Manager, by default, opens a view of a folder that is your **home folder** (the term folder is used interchangeably with the terms folder and subfolder). From that folder, you can change to other folders, both up and down in the hierarchy, to view each folder's contents. The path to the current folder is always displayed in the upper area of the File Manager window.

- a. Click on the **File Drawer** icon on the **Front Panel** to start **File manager**. What is the folder path displayed in the upper area of the panel? _____

Step 3. Check and Change File Permissions with File Manager

You can view and change the **Properties** for a file or folder by selecting it from the File Manager window and then choosing **Properties** from the **Selected** menu. An alternate method is to right click the file or folder and choose Properties from the menu displayed. After choosing **Properties**, a **Properties** window appears. Clicking on the **Information** category button, allows you to view information about the file, such as file size and last modification date. Clicking on the **Permissions** button, allows viewing and changing of permissions. To change permissions for Owner (User), Group or Other, select the desired permission by clicking on the checkbox.

- a. Click on the **dante** file and click on the **Selected** menu and then the **Properties** option. Click on the **Permissions** button. What are the permissions of the **dante** file?

- b. Change to the **practice** folder and create a new file called **fmfile** using the **File** menu. Right click on this file and select properties from the menu. Click on the permission button. What are the permissions for this file? _____

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Worksheet – Cont.

c. Click on the **checkbox** for **read** access by **other** users to deselect it (remove the check mark). Will users other than yourself or members of your group be able to see the contents of this file now? _____ Close the properties window for the **fmfile**.

d. Using File Manager, navigate up thru the file system structure to the **/usr/bin** folder. Locate the **cat** command file. What is the symbol on the file icon? _____

e. Click on the **cat** file and click on the **Selected** menu and then the **Properties** option and right click the file icon and select properties. Click on the **permissions** button. What are the permissions of the **cat** file? _____

f. Now that you have seen the permission for this file, what do you think the lightning bolt means? _____

g. Click on the **checkbox** for **read** access by **other** users to deselect it (remove the check mark). Were you able to do it? _____ Why or why not? _____

h. Close the **properties** window for the **cat** file.

Step 4. Check and Change Folder Permissions with File Manager

a. Using File Manager, navigate to your **home** folder and click on the **practice** folder to select it. Click on the **Selected** menu and then the **Properties** option.

b. Click on the **permissions** button. What are the permissions of the **practice** folder? _____

c. Change to the **practice** folder and create a new folder called **fmfolder**. Right click on this folder and select **properties** from the menu. Click on the **Permissions** button. What are the permissions for this folder? _____

d. Click on the **checkbox** for **read** access and **execute** access by **other** users to deselect it (remove the check mark.) Will users other than yourself or members of your group be able to see the contents of this folder or copy files from it now? _____

e. Click on the **checkbox** for **write** access for your **group** (staff) to select it (add the check mark). Will members of your group be able to change files in your **fmfolder**? _____

f. Note the “**Apply changes to**” option. What is the purpose of this option and what are the choices? _____

g. Close the properties window for the **fmfolder**.

h. Using File Manager, navigate up thru the file system structure to the **/usr/bin** folder. What is the symbol on this folder icon? _____ What does this mean? _____

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Worksheet – Cont.

Step 5 – Remove Files and Directories Created in this Lab

Remove all files and **directories** created in your home directory during this lab.

Step 6. Logout

Exit the CDE File Manager by clicking the File menu and click Close. Close any terminal windows. Click the **EXIT** icon on the front panel.