Dpkg

dpkg --compare--versions *v1* gt *v2*	Compare version numbers, check with **echo $?**.
dpkg-query -W --showformat=*format*	Query installed packages, format e.g. '${Package} ${Version} ${Installed-Size}\n'.
dpkg --get-selections > *file*	Write package selections to file.
dpkg --set-selections < *file*	Set package selections from file.

The Network

/etc/network/interfaces	Network interface configuration.
ifup, ifdown [*device*]	Start, stop network interfaces according to files above.
/sbin/ip	Show and manipulate network interfaces and routing, needs iproute.
ssh -X *user@host*	Login at other machine.
scp *files user@host:path*	Copy files to other machine (and vice versa).

Web Server (Apache2)

/etc/apache2/	Configuration files.
/etc/apache2/sites-available/	Contains virtual hosts. To enable a virtual host, use **a2ensite**.
/etc/apache2/mods-available/	Contains available modules files. To enable a module, use **a2enmod**.

Debian GNU/Linux Reference Card

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http://www.debian.org/

Getting Help

man *page* or man bash	Read online help for every command and many configuration files.
command [--help, -h]	Brief help for most commands.
/usr/share/doc/package-name/	Find all documentation here, optional file README.Debian contains specifics.
Web documentation	Reference, manuals, FAQs, HOWTOs, etc. at http://www.debian.org/doc/
Mailing lists at http://lists.debian.org/	The community is always helpful, search for users.
The Wiki at http://wiki.debian.org/	Contains all kind of useful information.

Installation

Installer	All information about it at http://www.debian.org/devel/debian-installer/
CD images	Download from http://www.debian.org/distrib/
boot: expert	E.g. to set up the network w/o DHCP or using LILO instead of GRUB.

Bugs

Bug Tracking at http://bugs.debian.org/	All about existing and fixed bugs.
Package specific	See http://bugs.debian.org/*package-name*/, use wnpp to ask for new packages.
reportbug	Report a bug by e-mail.
Reporting	Instructions at http://www.debian.org/Bugs/Reporting

Configuration

/etc/	All system configuration files are under directory /etc/.
editor *files*	Default text editor. May be **nano**, **emacs**, **vi**, **joe**.
CUPS at http://hostname:631	Browser interface to printing system.
dpkg-reconfigure *package-name*	Reconfigure a package, e.g. console-common (keyboard), locales (localisation).
update-alternatives *options*	Manage command alternatives.
update-grub	After changing /boot/grub/menu.lst.
make-kpkg --initrd --revision=2:my.1.0 --rootcmd fakeroot --uc --us kernel_image	Build a kernel packages from sources, if a customised kernel is really needed, needs kernel-package.
m-a a-i module kernel_image	Create and install third-party modules (gspca, ...), needs module-assistant.

Daemons and System

/etc/init.d/file restart	Restart a service, system daemon.
/etc/init.d/file stop	Stop a service, system daemon.
/etc/init.d/file start	Start a service, system daemon.
halt, reboot, poweroff	Halts, reboots, shuts down system.
/var/log/	All log files are under this directory.
/etc/default/	Default values for many daemons and services.

Important Shell Commands

cat *files*	Print files to screen.
cd *directory*	Change to directory.
cp *files dest*	Copy files and directories.
echo *string*	Echo string to screen.
gzip, bzip2 [-d] *files*	Compress, uncompress files.
pager *files*	Show contents of files.
ls [*files*]	List files.
mkdir *directory-names*	Create directories.
mv *file1 file2*	Move, rename files.
rm *files*	Remove files.
rmdir *dirs*	Remove empty directories.
tar [c][x][t][z][j] -f *file*.tar [*files*]	Create, eXtract, list Table of archive file, *z*, *j* for .gz, .bz2.
find *directories expressions*	Find files like -name *name* or -size *+1000*, etc.
grep *search-string files*	Find search-string in files.
kill [-9] *number*	Send signal to process (e.g. terminate it).
ln -s *file link*	Create a symbolic link to a file.
ps [*options*]	Show current processes.
su - [*username*]	Become another user, e.g. root.
sudo *command*	Execute a command as root as normal user, see /etc/sudoers
command > *file*	Overwrite file with output of command.
command >> *file*	Append output of command to file.
cmd1	*cmd2*	Use output of command 1 as input of command 2.
command < *file*	Use file as input for command.

APT

apt-get update	Update packages listings from package repositories as listed in /etc/apt/sources.list. Required whenever that file or the contents of the repositories change.
apt-cache search *search-string*	Search packages and descriptions for *search-string*.
apt-cache policy *package-names*	Show versions and priorities of available packages.
apt-cache show *package-names*	Show package information incl. description.
apt-cache showpkg *package-names*	Show package dependencies (needed packages).
apt-get install *package-names*	Install packages from repositories with all dependencies.
apt-get upgrade	Install newest versions of all packages currently installed.
apt-get dist-upgrade	Like **apt-get upgrade**, but with advanced conflict resolution.
apt-get remove *package-names*	Remove packages with all needed packages.
apt-get autoremove	Remove packages that no other packages depend on.
apt-cache depends *package-names*	List all packages needed by the one given.
apt-cache rdepends *package-names*	List all packages that need the one given.
apt-file update	Update content listings from package repositories, see **apt-get update**
apt-file search *file-name*	Search packages for file.
apt-file list *package-name*	List contents of a package.
auto-apt	Installs packages automatically if needed, can replace **apt-file**, needs auto-apt.
aptitude	Console interface to APT, needs aptitude.
synaptic	GUI interface to APT, needs synaptic.

Dpkg

dpkg -l [*names*]	List packages.
dpkg -I *pkg*.deb	Show package information.
dpkg -c *pkg*.deb	List contents of package file.
dpkg -S *filename*	Show which package a file belongs to.
dpkg -i *pkg*.deb	Install package files.
debsums	Audit check sums of installed packages, needs debsums.
dpkg-divert [options] *file*	Override a package's version of a file.