

Basic Linux for CTFs

What do I need to play?

Challenges may require **linux** to be solved (or at least it can make your life easier).

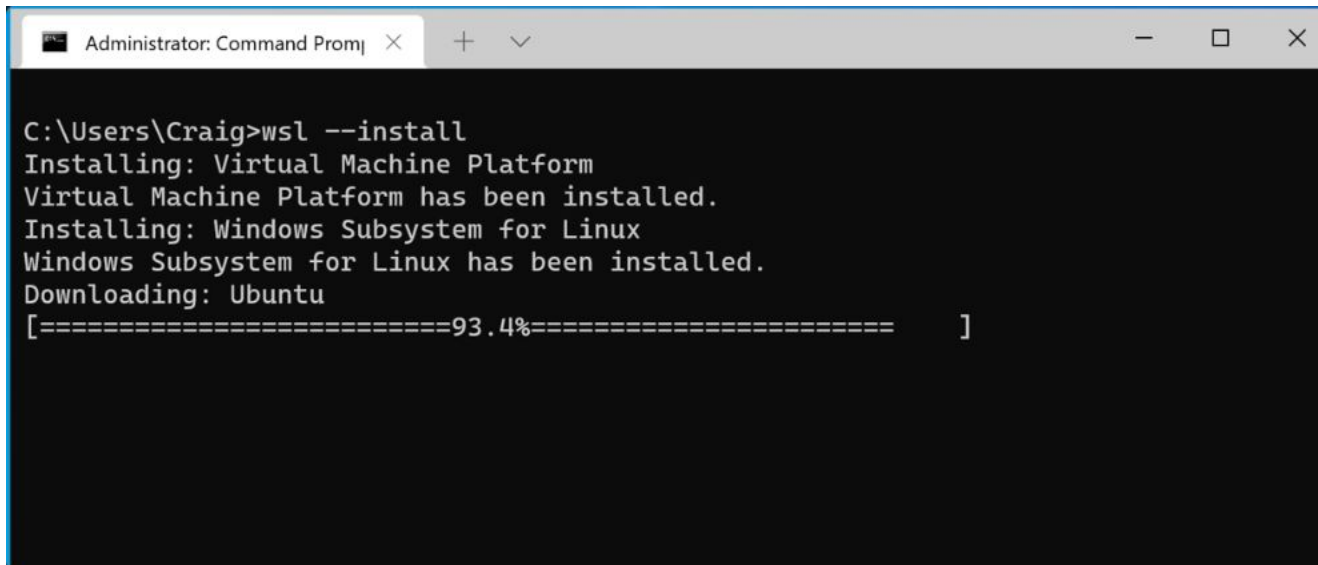
So should I change my OS just for CTF?

It's **not necessary** to install linux as your main OS, you have many different options:

- Virtual Machine
- Dual Boot
- WSL2

Installing WSL

- run powershell as administrator
- execute the command “wsl -- install”

A screenshot of a Windows Command Prompt window titled "Administrator: Command Promp". The window has a standard Windows title bar with minimize, maximize, and close buttons. The command prompt shows the execution of the command "wsl --install" from the directory "C:\Users\Craig". The output indicates the successful installation of the Virtual Machine Platform and the Windows Subsystem for Linux, followed by the download of Ubuntu. A progress bar for the Ubuntu download is shown at 93.4% completion.

```
C:\Users\Craig>wsl --install
Installing: Virtual Machine Platform
Virtual Machine Platform has been installed.
Installing: Windows Subsystem for Linux
Windows Subsystem for Linux has been installed.
Downloading: Ubuntu
[=====93.4%=====]
```

Some Linux basics

During CTFs it is **crucial** to know how to use Linux **properly** so let's start with some basics

Here's a command line cheatsheet:

<https://cheatography.com/davechild/cheat-sheets/linux-command-line/>

Some Linux basics

Often challenges require also **remote connection**. There are many way to do it

- **SSH** → **Secure SHell** is a protocol that allows to establish an encrypted connection that gives us a remote shell
- **netcat** → the TCP and UDP swiss knife
- **curl** → allows remote data transfer in a plethora of protocols

Bandit from OvertheWire is a good way to get started with **linux** for cybersecurity:

<https://overthewire.org/wargames/bandit/>