

To list files in a specific directory, pass the path to the directory as an argument to the `ls` command. For example, to list the contents of the `/etc` directory you would type:

```
ls /etc
```

You can also pass multiple directories and files to the `ls` command separated by space:

```
ls /etc /var /etc/passwd
```

If the user you are logged in doesn't have read permissions to the directory, you will get a message saying that `ls` can't open the directory:

```
ls /root
```

```
ls: cannot open directory '/root': Permission denied
```