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chmod - change permissions on files

Note: This is only a Basic guide to chmod, covering some niche areas.

To see the current permissions on files and directories (folders):

```
sburke@server:~$ ls -la
-rwx---r-x   1 sburke users   1834 2006-09-07 17:48 .bashrc
drwxr-xr-x   2 sburke users   4096 2006-10-21 17:08 public_html
-rw-r--r--   1 sburke users     73 2006-09-28 12:03 .screenrc
```

The format of permissions are:

```
-----user----- -----group----- -----world-----
read, write, execute, read, write, execute, read, write, execute
```

Common Permissions are:

```
chmod 000 //removes
chmod 400 //read permission to the user
chmod 500 //read & execute permission to the user
chmod 600 //read & write permission to the user
chmod 700 //read & write & execute permission to the user.
```

So - mixing and matching the above numbers can give:

```
chmod 644 //gives read&write to user, AND gives read to group and world.
chmod 755 //gives read&write&execute to user, AND read&execute to group and world.
```

Make a Sticky Directory or File

A sticky file means that you can allow people to read and write to the file, however they cannot remove/delete the file. Similarly with a sticky directory: people can read, write and execute a directory and its contents, however they cannot remove the directory.

```
chmod +t file
chmod +t directory
ls -la
```

Chmod

drwxrwxrwt

The /var/tmp has the sticky permission - so people can write inside the tmp directory, but they cannot remove the directory itself.

More info:

<http://www-128.ibm.com/developerworks/aix/library/au-speakingunix4/?ca=dgr-lnxw07UNIXpart4>