

How to use ncd� to check disk space in Ubuntu

Have you ever found yourself stuck trying to figure out the disk space consumption on your Ubuntu system?

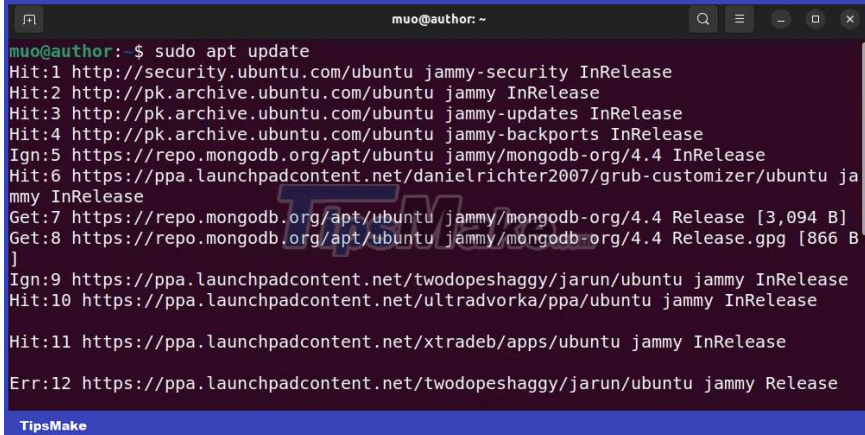
If so, you'll want to see how the ncd� command can help solve this problem.

Here's how to use ncd� to check disk space usage on Ubuntu and make disk space management an easy task.

Prerequisites: Install ncd� on Ubuntu

First, open terminal and update your system package information:

```
sudo apt update
```

A terminal window with a dark background and light text. The prompt is 'muo@author: ~'. The command 'sudo apt update' has been executed, resulting in the following output: Hit:1 http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-security InRelease; Hit:2 http://pk.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy InRelease; Hit:3 http://pk.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-updates InRelease; Hit:4 http://pk.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-backports InRelease; Ign:5 https://repo.mongodb.org/apt/ubuntu jammy/mongodb-org/4.4 InRelease; Hit:6 https://ppa.launchpadcontent.net/danielrichter2007/grub-customizer/ubuntu jammy InRelease; Get:7 https://repo.mongodb.org/apt/ubuntu jammy/mongodb-org/4.4 Release [3,094 B]; Get:8 https://repo.mongodb.org/apt/ubuntu jammy/mongodb-org/4.4 Release.gpg [866 B]; Ign:9 https://ppa.launchpadcontent.net/twodopeshaggy/jarun/ubuntu jammy InRelease; Hit:10 https://ppa.launchpadcontent.net/ultradvorka/ppa/ubuntu jammy InRelease; Hit:11 https://ppa.launchpadcontent.net/xtradedb/apps/ubuntu jammy InRelease; Err:12 https://ppa.launchpadcontent.net/twodopeshaggy/jarun/ubuntu jammy Release. A 'TipsMake' watermark is visible in the center of the terminal output.

```
muo@author: ~$ sudo apt update
Hit:1 http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-security InRelease
Hit:2 http://pk.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy InRelease
Hit:3 http://pk.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-updates InRelease
Hit:4 http://pk.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-backports InRelease
Ign:5 https://repo.mongodb.org/apt/ubuntu jammy/mongodb-org/4.4 InRelease
Hit:6 https://ppa.launchpadcontent.net/danielrichter2007/grub-customizer/ubuntu jammy InRelease
Get:7 https://repo.mongodb.org/apt/ubuntu jammy/mongodb-org/4.4 Release [3,094 B]
Get:8 https://repo.mongodb.org/apt/ubuntu jammy/mongodb-org/4.4 Release.gpg [866 B]
Ign:9 https://ppa.launchpadcontent.net/twodopeshaggy/jarun/ubuntu jammy InRelease
Hit:10 https://ppa.launchpadcontent.net/ultradvorka/ppa/ubuntu jammy InRelease
Hit:11 https://ppa.launchpadcontent.net/xtradedb/apps/ubuntu jammy InRelease
Err:12 https://ppa.launchpadcontent.net/twodopeshaggy/jarun/ubuntu jammy Release
```

Next, install ncd� on your Ubuntu system:

```
sudo apt install ncd�
```

```
muo@author: ~  
muo@author:~$ sudo apt install ncd  
Reading package lists... Done  
Building dependency tree... Done  
Reading state information... Done  
The following NEW packages will be installed:  
ncdu  
0 upgraded, 1 newly installed, 0 to remove and 10 not upgraded.  
Need to get 43.4 kB of archives.  
After this operation, 106 kB of additional disk space will be used.  
Get:1 http://pk.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy/universe amd64 ncd  
amd64 1.15.1-1  
[43.4 kB]  
Fetched 43.4 kB in 5s (9,609 B/s)  
Selecting previously unselected package ncd  
(Reading database ... 240611 files and directories currently installed.)  
Preparing to unpack .../ncdu_1.15.1-1_amd64.deb ...  
Unpacking ncd (1.15.1-1) ...  
Setting up ncd (1.15.1-1) ...  
Processing triggers for man-db (2.10.2-1) ...  
TipsMake
```

To check if you can now run ncd, just display its version:

```
ncdu -version
```

```
muo@author: ~  
muo@author:~$ ncd -version  
ncdu 1.15.1  
muo@author:~$  
TipsMake
```

How to use ncd on Ubuntu

ncdu is a modern replacement for the classic du command. This utility helps you analyze the disk usage of any folder.

Let's explore some practical use cases of the ncd command.

1. Check the disk usage of the current folder

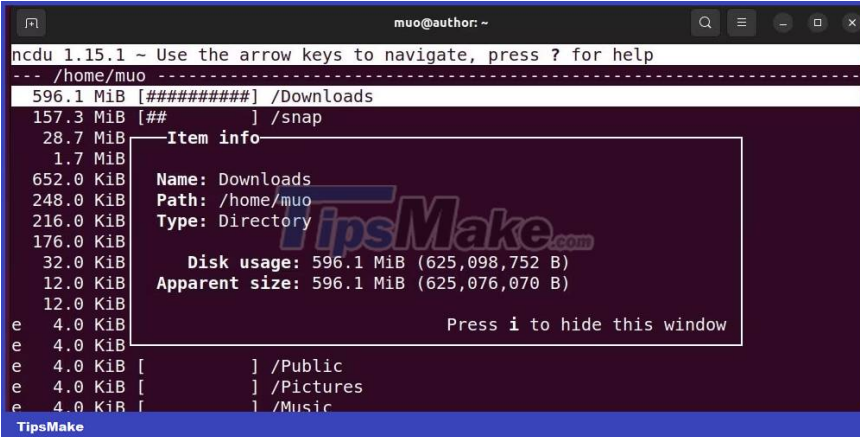
Running ncd without any options displays the current directory's drive usage:

```
ncdu
```

```
author@linux: ~  
ncdu 1.15.1 ~ Use the arrow keys to navigate, press ? for help  
--- /home/author -----  
15.7 MiB [#####] /.cache  
6.6 MiB [####] /snap  
620.0 KiB [ ] /.local  
176.0 KiB [ ] /.config  
12.0 KiB [ ] /Downloads  
12.0 KiB [ ] /.gnupg  
e 4.0 KiB [ ] /Videos  
e 4.0 KiB [ ] /Templates  
e 4.0 KiB [ ] /Public  
e 4.0 KiB [ ] /Pictures  
e 4.0 KiB [ ] /Music  
e 4.0 KiB [ ] /Documents  
e 4.0 KiB [ ] /Desktop  
e 4.0 KiB [ ] /.ssh  
4.0 KiB [ ] .bashrc  
4.0 KiB [ ] .bash_history  
4.0 KiB [ ] .profile  
TipsMake
```

2. Display subfolder details

To select a subfolder, you can use the up and down arrow keys. Then, press the `i` key to check the information of that subfolder such as Name, Path, Type, Disk usage and Apparent size:



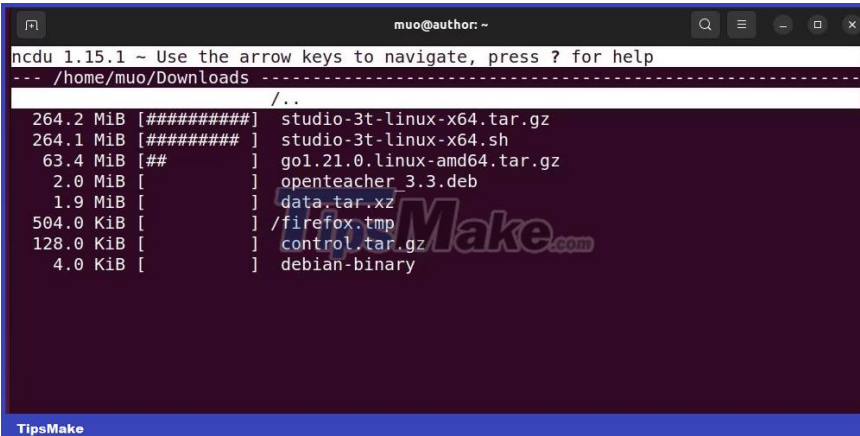
```
ncdu 1.15.1 ~ Use the arrow keys to navigate, press ? for help
--- /home/muo
596.1 MiB [#####] /Downloads
157.3 MiB [##] /snap
28.7 MiB
1.7 MiB
652.0 KiB
248.0 KiB
216.0 KiB
176.0 KiB
32.0 KiB
12.0 KiB
12.0 KiB
e 4.0 KiB
e 4.0 KiB
e 4.0 KiB [ ] /Public
e 4.0 KiB [ ] /Pictures
e 4.0 KiB [ ] /Music

Item info
Name: Downloads
Path: /home/muo
Type: Directory
Disk usage: 596.1 MiB (625,098,752 B)
Apparent size: 596.1 MiB (625,076,070 B)

Press i to hide this window
```

3. Navigate to a specific subfolder

To navigate to the selected subfolder, simply press the right arrow key:



```
ncdu 1.15.1 ~ Use the arrow keys to navigate, press ? for help
--- /home/muo/Downloads
/..
264.2 MiB [#####] studio-3t-linux-x64.tar.gz
264.1 MiB [#####] studio-3t-linux-x64.sh
63.4 MiB [##] gol.21.0.linux-amd64.tar.gz
2.0 MiB [ ] openteacher_3.3.deb
1.9 MiB [ ] data.tar.xz
504.0 KiB [ ] /firefox.tmp
128.0 KiB [ ] control.tar.gz
4.0 KiB [ ] debian-binary
```

View relevant drive usage details and press the left arrow key to switch back to the parent folder.

4. Check the disk space of the root directory

To check the disk usage of the root directory, use the `-x` option with a forward slash `/`.

```
sudo ncd -x /
```

The `-x` option instructs `ncdu` to only include files on the same file system:

```
muo@author: ~
ncdu 1.15.1 - Use the arrow keys to navigate, press ? for help
-----
Scanning...
Total items: 41734   size: 3,9 GiB
Current item: /usr/bin/spa-json-dump
Sc

Press q to abort
```

The ongoing scan will take a few seconds to complete and then display the results:

```
muo@author: ~
ncdu 1.15.1 - Use the arrow keys to navigate, press ? for help
-----
 /
5.8 GiB [#####] /var
5.6 GiB [#####] /usr
4.0 GiB [#####] new_swap
1.1 GiB [#] swapfile
785.3 MiB [#] /home
389.1 MiB [#] /root
185.9 MiB [ ] /boot
14.4 MiB [ ] /etc
13.8 MiB [ ] /opt
204.0 KiB [ ] /tmp
56.0 KiB [ ] /snap
e 16.0 KiB [ ] /lost+found
8.0 KiB [ ] /media
e 4.0 KiB [ ] /srv
e 4.0 KiB [ ] /mnt
e 4.0 KiB [ ] /cdrom
```

5. Check the disk usage of a specific folder

To visualize the disk usage of any given folder, specify the relative or absolute path, just like you did with the root folder. For example:

```
ncdu ~/snap
```

```
muo@author: ~
ncdu 1.15.1 - Use the arrow keys to navigate, press ? for help
-----
-- /home/muo/snap -----
147.9 MiB [#####] /firefox
9.0 MiB [ ] /snap-store
380.0 KiB [ ] /snapd-desktop-integration
```

By mastering ncd, you can easily test and manage your memory, which makes your Ubuntu experience more efficient. So, take control of your system's efficiency and organization, and implement these tips to enjoy an optimized Ubuntu experience like never before.

You finished reading the article "**How to use ncd to check disk space in Ubuntu**" edited by the [TipsMake](#) team. We hope this article has provided you with many useful tech tips and tricks. You can search for similar articles on tips and guides. Thank you for reading and for following us regularly.
