

shutdown (halt or reboot the system)

This command is used to power down or reboot the system. Here is an example of its most common use:

```
sudo shutdown -h now
```

This will shut down the system immediately. Only root is allowed to call *shutdown*. Instead of the keyword *now*, you can use a time specification in the form *hh:mm* or *+m* to schedule shutdown at a later time. For example, specifying *+10* will shut down the system in ten minutes. Use the option *-r* instead of *-h* to reboot the system. The following command will reboot the system in ten minutes:

```
sudo shutdown -r +10
```

You shouldn't use *shutdown* when you're logged into a graphical desktop environment, because you might prevent the system from doing important clean-up work. Use the desktop's inbuilt shutdown facility instead. Still, the *shutdown* command may come in handy when things go wrong, e.g. when your desktop crashes.