Linux Directory Structure (File System Structure)

1. `/` – Root
   Every single file and directory starts from the root directory. Only root user has write privilege under this directory. Please note that `/root` is root user's home directory, which is not same as `/`.

2. `/bin` – User Binaries
   Contains binary executables. Common Linux commands you need to use in single-user modes are located under this directory. Commands used by all the users of the system are located here. For example: `ps`, `ls`, `ping`, `grep`, `cp`.

3. `/sbin` – System Binaries
   Just like `/bin`, `/sbin` also contains binary executables. But, the Linux commands located under this directory are used typically by System Administrator, for system maintenance purpose. For example: `iptables`, `reboot`, `fdisk`, `ifconfig`, `swapoff`.

4. `/etc` – Configuration Files
   Contains configuration files required by all programs. This also contains system files used to start/stop individual programs. For example: `/etc/resolv.conf`, `/etc/logrotate.conf`.

5. `/dev` – Device Files
   Contains device files. These include terminal devices, usb, or any device attached to the system. For example: `/dev/tty1`, `/dev/usbmon0`.

6. `/proc` – Process Information
   Contains information about system processes. This is a pseudo filesystem contains information about running process. For example: `/proc/1/pid` directory contains information about the process with that particular pid. This is a virtual filesystem with text information about system resources. For example: `/proc/uptime`.

7. `/var` – Variable Files
   var stands for variable files. Content of the files that are expected to grow can be found under this directory. This includes — system log files (`/var/log`), packages and database files (`/var/lib`), email files (`/var/mail`), print queues (`/var/spool`), lock files (`/var/lock`), temp files needed across reboots (`/var/tmp`).

8. `/tmp` – Temporary Files
   Directory that contains temporary files created by system and users. Files under this directory are deleted when system is rebooted.

9. `/usr` – User Programs
   Contains binaries, libraries, documentation and source code for second level programs. `/usr/bin` contains binary files for user programs. If you can't find a user binary under `/bin`, look under `/usr/bin`. For example: `at`, `awk`, `less`, `scp`. `/usr/sbin` contains binary files for system administrators. If you can't find a system binary under `/sbin`, look under `/usr/sbin`. For example: `atd`, `cron`, `sshd`, `useradd`, `userdel`. `/usr/lib` contains libraries for `/usr/bin` and `/usr/sbin`. `/usr/local` contains user programs that you install from source. For example, when you install Apache from source, it goes under `/usr/local/apache2`.

10. `/home` – Home Directories
    Home directories for all users to store their personal files. For example: `/home/john`, `/home/nikit`.

11. `/boot` – Boot Loader Files
    Contains boot loader related files. Kernel initrd, vmlinuz, grub files are located under `/boot`.
    For example: `/initrd.img`, `/vmlinuz`, `/boot/grub2/grub.conf`, `/boot/grub2/grub.cfg`.

12. `/opt` – Optional add-on Apps
    Contains add-on applications from individual vendors. Add-on applications should be installed under either `/opt` or `/opt` sub-directory.

13. `/mnt` – Mount Directory
    Temporary mount directory where sysadmins can mount filesystems.

14. `/media` – Removable Media Devices
    Temporary mount directory for removable devices. For example: `/media/cdrom` for CD-ROM, `/media/floppy` for floppy drives, `/media/cdrw` for CD writer.

15. `/srv` – Service Data
    srv stands for service. Contains server specific services related data. For example, `/srv/cvs` contains CVS related data.