











Mac Terminal Cheat Sheet

macOS Reference & Cheat Sheet

in30minutes
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Keyboard Shortcuts

To use a keyboard shortcut, hold down one or more modifier keys while pressing the last key of the shortcut. For example, to use the shortcut Command + C (copy), hold down the Command button, press C, and then release both keys. Mac menus and keyboards often use symbols for certain keys, including the modifier keys:

 Command	 Option	 Return	 Left Arrow	 Escape (Esc)
 Shift	 Control	 Delete	 Right Arrow	 Eject

To create your own keyboard shortcuts, go to Apple menu > System Preferences > Keyboard > Shortcuts and follow the directions. Select App Shortcuts and the plus button to create a shortcut for a specific application.

General shortcuts

Command + C — Copy selected text, files, folders, or items

Command + X — Cut selected text, files, folders, or items

Command + V — Paste

Command + A — Select all

Command + F — Find or Search

Command + Z — Undo last action

Command + Shift + Z — Redo

Command + N — New document or app window

Command + O — Open file

Command + P — Print

Command + S — Save

Command + W — Close document or window

Command + Q — Quit application

Command + H — Hide app

Command + D — Create URL bookmark in browser

Command + Equal/Plus symbol — Zoom in

Command + Dash/Minus symbol — Zoom out

Command + F3/Mission Control — Show desktop

Command + tap space bar — Open Spotlight search window

Command + hold space bar — Open Siri

Command + Tab — Cycle through open apps

Command + Comma — Open preferences for active app

Esc — Cancel

Option + Command + Esc — Force Quit

Option + Command + D — Show/Hide Dock

Option + Brightness — Open display preferences

Option + Volume — Open sound preferences

Shift + Command + 3 — Take screenshot of entire screen

Shift + Command + 4 — Take screenshot of selected area

Shift + Command + Q — Log out

Control + Command + Media Eject — Quit all apps and restart

Control + Option + Command + Media Eject — Quit all apps and shut down

Startup mode + Shift — Start up in Safe Mode

Startup mode + D — Start up to diagnostic mode

Finder shortcuts

Command + 1 — View items as icons

Command + 2 — View items as a list

Command + 3 — Column view

Command + 4 — Cover Flow

Command + D — Duplicate selected item

Command + E — Eject selected disk or mounted image

Command + I — Show information about selected item

Command + N — Open new Finder window

Command + Y — Preview selected file

Command + Left Bracket — Previous folder

Command + Right Bracket — Next folder

Command + Delete — Move selected item to Trash

Shift + Command + Delete — Delete items in Trash

Shift + Command + F — Display all files

Shift + Command + D — Show desktop folder

Shift + Command + N — Create new folder

Shift + Command + O — Show Documents folder

Option + Command + L — Show Downloads folder

Enter/Return — Highlight name of selected item for editing

Working with text

Command + B — Bold text

Command + I — Italicize text

Command + U — Underline text

Command + E — Center text

Command + L — Left-align text

Command + R — Right-align text

Command + Delete — Delete one character to the right

Shift + Command + Colon — Display spelling and grammar options

Fn + Up Arrow — Scroll up one page

Fn + Down Arrow — Scroll down one page

Fn + Left Arrow — Scroll to start of a document

Fn + Right Arrow — Scroll to the end of a document

Control + A — Move to the beginning of the line or paragraph

Control + E — Move to the end of a line or paragraph

Option + Arrow — Move cursor one word or one line at a time

Shift + Option + Arrow — Move cursor while highlighting text one word at a time

Control + Command + Space bar — Pick emoji and other symbols

Hold down letter or Letter + Right arrow — Pick accented letter

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Mac Terminal Cheat Sheet

The Terminal on macOS is a powerful tool that provides users with a command-line interface to interact with the operating system. It enables advanced users to perform tasks more efficiently than they could using the graphical user interface (GUI). Whether you are a beginner or an experienced user, having a cheat sheet handy can significantly enhance your productivity and help you navigate the myriad of commands available. This article serves as a comprehensive cheat sheet for the Mac Terminal, covering essential commands, navigation tips, file manipulation techniques, and more.

Getting Started with Terminal

Before diving into commands, it's important to understand how to open the Terminal and some basic concepts.

Opening Terminal

To open the Terminal on a Mac, follow these steps:

1. Open Finder.
2. Navigate to Applications.
3. Go to Utilities.
4. Double-click on Terminal.

Alternatively, you can use Spotlight Search:

- Press 'Command (⌘) + Space'.
- Type "Terminal" and press 'Enter'.

Basic Commands

Here are some fundamental commands to get you started:

- ``pwd``: Prints the current working directory.
- ``ls``: Lists the files and directories in the current directory.
- ``cd ``: Changes the current directory to the specified directory.
- ``clear``: Clears the terminal screen.

Exiting Terminal

To exit the Terminal, you can simply type ``exit`` and press 'Enter', or you can close the Terminal window.

File and Directory Management

Understanding how to manipulate files and directories is crucial for effective Terminal usage.

Creating and Deleting Files and Directories

- Creating a directory:

```
```bash
mkdir
```
```

- Creating a file:

```
```bash
touch
```
```

- Deleting a file:

```
```bash
rm
```
```

- Deleting a directory:

```
```bash
rmdir
```
```

Note: The directory must be empty to delete it with `rmdir`.

- Force deleting a directory and its contents:

```
```bash
rm -r
```
```

Moving and Copying Files

- Moving or renaming a file:

```
```bash
mv
```
```

- Copying a file:

```
```bash
cp
```
```

- Copying a directory:

```
```bash
cp -r
```
```

Viewing and Editing Files

The Terminal also allows you to view and edit files directly.

Viewing File Contents

- Displaying file contents:

```
```bash
cat
```
```

- Viewing file contents page-by-page:

```
```bash
less
```
```

- Displaying the first few lines of a file:

```
```bash
head
```
```

- Displaying the last few lines of a file:

```
```bash
tail
```
```

Editing Files

You can use text editors available in Terminal:

- Using nano (simple and user-friendly):

```
```bash
nano
```
```

- Using vim (more advanced):

```
```bash
vim
```
```

- Using emacs (another advanced option):

```
```bash
emacs
```
```

System Information and Management

Terminal commands can also help you gather system information and manage system resources.

Checking System Information

- Display current directory:

```
```bash
pwd
```
```

- Show current user:

```
```bash
whoami
```
```

- List currently running processes:

```
```bash
ps aux
```
```

- Show disk usage:

```
```bash
df -h
```
```

- Show memory usage:

```
```bash
top
```
```

Installing and Managing Software

If you are using Homebrew, a popular package manager for macOS, you can easily install and manage software.

- Installing Homebrew:

```
``bash
/bin/bash -c "$(curl -fsSL https://raw.githubusercontent.com/Homebrew/install/HEAD/install.sh)"
``
```

- Installing a package:

```
``bash
brew install
``
```

- Updating Homebrew:

```
``bash
brew update
``
```

- Upgrading installed packages:

```
``bash
brew upgrade
``
```

- Uninstalling a package:

```
``bash
brew uninstall
``
```

Networking Commands

Networking commands can be invaluable for troubleshooting and monitoring network issues.

Basic Networking Commands

- Check your IP address:

```
``bash
ifconfig
```

```
'''
```

- Ping a website:

```
```bash
```

```
ping
```

```
'''
```

- Check network connections:

```
```bash
```

```
netstat
```

```
'''
```

- Test connectivity:

```
```bash
```

```
curl
```

```
'''
```

## Advanced Terminal Features

Once you are comfortable with the basics, you can explore more advanced features.

### Using Pipes and Redirection

- Piping output from one command to another:

```
```bash
```

```
command1 | command2
```

```
'''
```

- Redirecting output to a file:

```
```bash
```

```
command > output.txt
```

```
'''
```

- Appending output to a file:

```
```bash
```

```
command >> output.txt
```

```
'''
```

Customizing Terminal

You can customize your Terminal settings for a better experience:

- Change the Terminal theme: Go to Terminal > Preferences > Profiles.
- Set keyboard shortcuts: Terminal > Preferences > Profiles > Keyboard.
- Create aliases for commands: Edit the `~/.bash_profile` or `~/.zshrc` file in your home directory to add:

```
``bash
alias ll='ls -la'
``
```

Conclusion

The Mac Terminal is a potent tool that can streamline your workflow and enhance your productivity. With this cheat sheet, you now have a solid foundation of commands and techniques to navigate and manipulate files, manage system resources, and much more. As you become more familiar with the Terminal, consider exploring additional commands and features to further expand your capabilities. Remember that practice is key, so don't hesitate to experiment with different commands to see their effects. Happy terminal-ing!

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a Mac Terminal cheat sheet?

A Mac Terminal cheat sheet is a quick reference guide that outlines common commands and shortcuts used in the macOS Terminal, helping users to efficiently navigate and perform tasks in the command line interface.

Where can I find a comprehensive Mac Terminal cheat sheet?

You can find comprehensive Mac Terminal cheat sheets on various websites such as GitHub, official Apple documentation, and tech blogs that focus on macOS tips and command line usage.

What are some essential commands included in a Mac Terminal cheat sheet?

Essential commands often included are `ls` (list files), `cd` (change directory), `cp` (copy files), `mv` (move or rename files), and `rm` (remove files).

How can a Mac Terminal cheat sheet improve my productivity?

A Mac Terminal cheat sheet can improve productivity by providing quick access to commands, reducing the time spent searching for syntax, and allowing users to execute tasks more efficiently through the command line.

Are there any downloadable Mac Terminal cheat sheets available?

Yes, there are many downloadable Mac Terminal cheat sheets available in PDF format or as printable resources from various online platforms, making it easy to have a physical copy for quick reference.

Find other PDF article:

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