Command Line Interpreter - CLI

Every OS has a built-in CLI that allows the execution of commands to automate tasks and perform advanced administrative functions. Additionally, it is used for troubleshooting and executing diagnostic tools.

1. Opening the CLI

As this is different depending on the OS used, we will have a topic for each of the three most popular systems: **Windows 10**, **OS X** and **Ubuntu**.

Windows 10

On Windows, the CLI is called **Command Prompt** and sometimes referred as command shell or cmd prompt. It can be started in multiple ways, some are listed below.

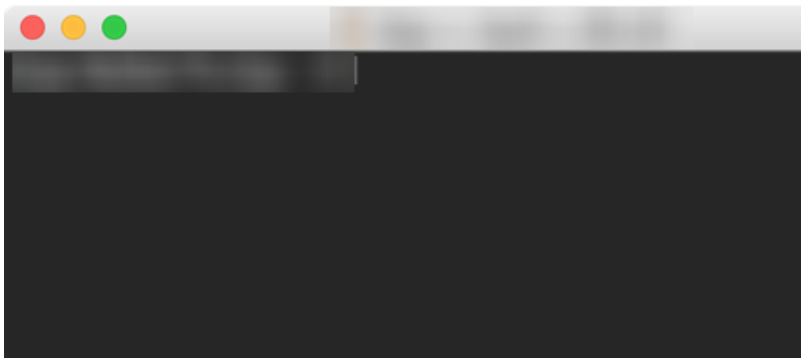
- Search “Command Prompt” in the Start Menu.
- Press “Win” + “R” and type “cmd” and press enter.

This is the **Command Prompt** interface.

OS X

On OS X, the CLI is called **Terminal**. Below there is a list of the multiple ways it can be started It can be started in multiple ways, some are listed below.

- Search for “terminal” in Spotlight.
- Press “⌘” + “Space” and type “terminal” and press enter.

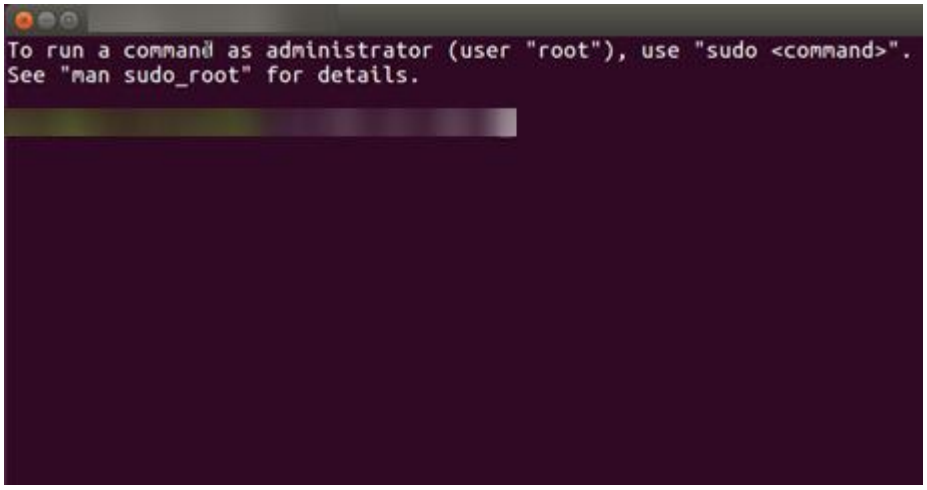


This is the **Terminal** interface.

Ubuntu

On Ubuntu, the CLI is called **Terminal** as well and it can be opened in various ways:

- Search for “terminal” on the Dash.
- Press “Ctrl” + “Shift” + “T”.



This is the **Terminal** interface.

2. Basic Commands

Here is a small number of commands available for those CLI in each Operating system.

▪ Change Directory

This command changes the current focused directory.

On **Windows 10**, **OS X** and **Ubuntu**:

```
cd directory_path
```

▪ List Directory Content

This command lists all files and folder available in the current directory.

On **OS X** and **Ubuntu**:

```
ls
```

On **Windows 10**:

```
dir
```

▪ Create a New Directory

This command created a new directory in the current location.

On **Windows 10**, **OS X** and **Ubuntu**:

```
mkdir directory_name
```

3. Challenge!

Now is your turn! Try to complete these steps:

1. **Create a folder in your desktop folder.**
2. **Open the shell/terminal and navigate to this folder using the appropriate command.**
3. **Create a new folder with the name “test_folder” using the terminal/shell.**
4. **Confirm that the folder was created using the terminal/shell appropriate command.**