

# Mac-Friendly Terminal Cheat Sheet

## Command History

### history n

Shows the stuff you've typed - add a number to limit to the last *n* items.

### ctrl-r



Interactively search through previously typed commands.

### !searchtext

Execute the last command typed that starts with 'searchtext'.

### !!

Execute the last command you typed.

### command !\*

Execute 'command' with the same parameters used previously.

### tab



Pressing tab will attempt to automatically complete the command you've begun typing.

## Useful Commands

### top



Shows active processes. Press q to quit.

### sudo command

Run a command as super user - type in your password when prompted.

### open command

Opens a file as if you double clicked it.

### find -name filename | xargs grep text

For file names matching 'filename', search their contents for 'text'.

### screen

Amazingly useful screen manager: read the manual!

## Emergencies

### echo command



This causes the terminal to print out 'command', showing you expansions:

```
g5:~ alex$ echo ls ~ $HOSTNAME
ls /Users/alex g5.local
```

### reset

This resets the terminal's display, which is useful if it becomes corrupted somehow.

## Text Shortcuts

### ctrl-a



Jump to the start of the line.

### ctrl-e



Jump to the end of the line.

### ctrl-k



Delete all text to the right of the cursor.

### ctrl-y



Paste text that you last deleted with these commands.

### command !\*

Execute 'command' with the same parameters used previously.

## Process Control

### ctrl-d

Sends end of file, will stop some processes that are waiting for an EOF.

### ctrl-z

Stops the currently running command.

### fg

Continues running the stopped command.

### kill PID

Kills a process with an ID of 'PID'.

### killall name

Kills a process called 'name'.

### ps aux

Lists active processes.

## Help Yourself

### man command

Show the help for 'command'.

### whatis command

Gives a one-line description of 'command'.

### apropos string

Search the whatis database for 'string'.