



Onn0 / terminal-mac-cheatsheet

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List of my most used commands and shortcuts in the terminal for Mac

🔄 51 commits

🌿 1 branch

📦 0 releases

👤 10 contributors

Branch: master ▾

New pull request

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Onn0 committed on GitHub Merge pull request #29 from alexwilkerson/patch-1 ...

Latest commit ef24ad6 on Aug 21, 2016

📁 espanol	Fixed table structure in translated readme's	a year ago
📁 portugues	Fixed table structure in translated readme's	a year ago
📁 tieng-viet	Translate to Vietnamese	9 months ago
📁 turkish	Minor update.	10 months ago
📁 中文请参考	Removed duplicate rm -i [file]	11 months ago
📄 README.md	Update README.md	9 months ago

📖 README.md

Terminal Cheatsheet for Mac (Basics)

- [Version en Español](#)
- [Versão em Português](#)
- [Türkçe Versiyon](#)
- [Türkçe Versiyon](#)
- [Phiên bản tiếng việt](#)

Letters are shown capitalized for readability only. Capslock should be off.

SHORTCUTS

Key/Command	Description
Ctrl + A	Go to the beginning of the line you are currently typing on. This also works for most text input fields system wide. Netbeans being one exception
Ctrl + E	Go to the end of the line you are currently typing on. This also works for most text input fields system wide. Netbeans being one exception
Ctrl + Q	Clears everything on current line
Ctrl + L	Clears the Screen
⌘Cmd + K	Clears the Screen
Ctrl + U	Cut everything backwards to beginning of line

Key/Command	Description
Ctrl + K	Cut everything forward to end of line
Ctrl + W	Cut one word backwards using white space as delimiter
Ctrl + Y	Paste whatever was cut by the last cut command
Ctrl + H	Same as backspace
Ctrl + C	Kill whatever you are running
Ctrl + D	Exit the current shell when no process is running, or send EOF to a the running process
Ctrl + Z	Puts whatever you are running into a suspended background process. fg restores it.
Ctrl + _	Undo the last command. (Underscore. So it's actually Ctrl + Shift + minus)
Ctrl + T	Swap the last two characters before the cursor
Ctrl + F	Move cursor one character forward
Ctrl + B	Move cursor one character backward
Esc + F	Move cursor one word forward
Esc + B	Move cursor one word backward
Esc + T	Swap the last two words before the cursor
Tab	Auto-complete files and folder names

CORE COMMANDS

Key/Command	Description
cd	Home directory
cd [folder]	Change directory e.g. cd documents
cd /	Root of drive
cd -	Previous directory
ls	Short listing
ls -l	Long listing
ls -a	Listing incl. hidden files
ls -lh	Long listing with Human readable file sizes
ls -R	Entire content of folder recursively
sudo [command]	Run command with the security privileges of the superuser (Super User DO)
open [file]	Opens a file (as if you double clicked it)
top	Displays active processes. Press q to quit
nano [file]	Opens the file using the nano editor
vim [file]	Opens the file using the vim editor
clear	Clear screen
reset	Resets the terminal display

CHAINING COMMANDS

Key/Command	Description
[command-a]; [command-b]	Run command A and then B, regardless of success of A
[command-a] && [command-b]	Run command B if A succeeded
[command-a]	
[command-a] &	Run command A in background

PIPING COMMANDS

Key/Command	Description
[command-a] [command-b]	Run command A and then pass the result to command B e.g ps auxwww grep google

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COMMAND HISTORY

Key/Command	Description
history n	Shows the stuff typed – add a number to limit the last n items
Ctrl + r	Interactively search through previously typed commands
![value]	Execute the last command typed that starts with ‘value’
!!	Execute the last command typed

FILE MANAGEMENT

Key/Command	Description
touch [file]	Create new file
pwd	Full path to working directory
.	Current folder, e.g. ls .
..	Parent/enclosing directory, e.g. ls ..
ls -l ..	Long listing of parent directory
cd ../../	Move 2 levels up
cat	Concatenate to screen
rm [file]	Remove a file, e.g. rm data.tmp
rm -i [file]	Remove with confirmation
rm -r [dir]	Remove a directory and contents
rm -f [file]	Force removal without confirmation
cp [file] [newfile]	Copy file to file
cp [file] [dir]	Copy file to directory

Key/Command	Description
<code>mv [file] [new filename]</code>	Move/Rename, e.g. <code>mv file1.ad /tmp</code>
<code>pbcopy < [file]</code>	Copies file contents to clipboard
<code>pbpaste</code>	Paste clipboard contents
<code>pbpaste > [file]</code>	Past clipboard contents into file, <code>pbpaste > paste-test.txt</code>

DIRECTORY MANAGEMENT

Key/Command	Description
<code>mkdir [dir]</code>	Create new directory
<code>mkdir -p [dir]/[dir]</code>	Create nested directories
<code>rmdir [dir]</code>	Remove directory (only operates on empty directories)
<code>rm -R [dir]</code>	Remove directory and contents
<code>[command] [command]</code>	Allows to combine multiple commands that generate output, e.g. <code>`cat data.txt</code>
<code>less</code>	Output content delivered in screensize chunks
<code>[command] > [file]</code>	Push output to file, keep in mind it will get overwritten
<code>[command] >> [file]</code>	Append output to existing file
<code>[command] < [file]</code>	Tell command to read content from a file

SEARCH

Key/Command	Description
<code>find [dir] -name [search_pattern]</code>	Search for files, e.g. <code>find /Users -name "file.txt"</code>
<code>grep [search_pattern] [file]</code>	Search for all lines that contain the pattern, e.g. <code>grep "Tom" file.txt</code>
<code>grep -r [search_pattern] [file]</code>	Recursively search for all lines that do not contain the pattern
<code>grep -v [search_pattern] [file]</code>	Search for all lines that do NOT contain the pattern

HELP

Key/Command	Description
<code>[command] -h</code>	Offers help
<code>[command] —help</code>	Offers help
<code>info [command]</code>	Offers help
<code>man [command]</code>	Show the help manual for [command]
<code>whatis [command]</code>	Gives a one-line description of [command]
<code>apropos [search-pattern]</code>	Searches for command with keywords in description

