Rails Beginner Cheat Sheet

/ Console Basics

Concept	Usage	Examples	Description
Change directory	cd directory	<pre>cd my_app cd my_app/app/models</pre>	Changes the directory to the specified directory on the console.
List contents directory	Is directory Win : dir directory	Is Is my_app	Shows all contents (files and folders) of the directory. If no directory is specified shows the contents of the current directory.
Directory you are currently in	pwd	pwd	Shows the full path of the directory you are currently in. E.g. /home/tobi/railsgirls
Create a new directory	mkdir name	mkdir rails mkdir fun	Creates a directory with the given name in the folder you are currently in.
Delete a file	rm file Windows : del file	rm foo rm index.html rm pictures/sample.jpg	Deletes the specified file. Be extra cautious with this as it would be too bad to delete something you still need :-(.
Abort the program	Press Ctrl+C		This will abort the program currently running in the terminal. For instance this is used to shut down the Rails server. You can also abort many other related tasks with it, including: bundle install, rake db:migrate, git pull and many more!
Exit a program	Exit		This will exit the program currently running in the terminal. For instance this is used to shut down the Rails console.

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/ Ruby Basics

Concept	Usage	Examples	Description
Comment	# Comment text	# This is a comment some.code # A comment # some.ignored_code	Ruby ignores everything that is marked as a comment. It does not try to execute it. Comments are just there for you as information. Comments are also commonly used to comment out code.
Variables	var = value	name = 'Tobi' name # => 'Tobi'	With a variable you tell Ruby that from now on you want to refer to that value by the name you gave it. So for the first example, from now on when you use name Ruby will know that you meant "Tobi".
Console output	puts text	puts "Hello World!"	Prints its argument to the console. Can be used in Rails apps to print something in the console where the server is running.
Define a method	def name(parameter) # method body end	def greet(name) puts "Hi there " + name end	Methods are basically reusable units of behaviour. And you can define them yourself just like this. Methods are small and focused on implementing a specific behaviour. Our example method is focused on greeting people. You could call it like this: greet("Tobi")
Constants	CONSTANT = value	PI = 3.1415926535 PI # => 3.1415926535	Constants look like variables, just in UPCASE. Both hold values and give you a name to refer to those values. However while the value a variable holds may change or might be of an unknown value (if you save user input in a variable) constants are different. They have a known value that should never change.

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/ Rails Basics

Concept	Usage	Description
Create a new app	rails new name	Create a new Ruby on Rails application with the given name here. This will give you the basic structure to immediately get started.
Start the server	rails server	You have to start the server in order for your application to respond to your requests. Starting the server might take some time. When it is done, you can access your application under localhost:3000 in the browser of your choice.
Scaffolding	rails generate scaffold name attribute:type	The scaffold command magically generates all the common things needed for a new resource for you! This includes controllers, models and views. That's all the basics you need. Take this example: rails generate scaffold product name:string price:integer
Run migrations	rails db:migrate	When you add a new migration, for example by creating a new scaffold, the migration has to be applied to your database. The command is used to update your database.
Install dependencies	bundle install	If you just added a new gem to your Gemfile you should run bundle install to install it. Don't forget to restart your server afterwards!
Show existing routes	rails routes	Shows complete list of available routes in your application.