



Mac Terminal Cheat Sheet

 [gistfile1.textile](#)

## SHORTCUTS

Key/Command	Description
Tab	Auto-complete files and folder names
Ctrl + A	Go to the beginning of the line you are currently typing on
Ctrl + E	Go to the end of the line you are currently typing on
Ctrl + U	Clear the line before the cursor
Ctrl + K	Clear the line after the cursor
Ctrl + W	Delete the word before the cursor
Ctrl + T	Swap the last two characters before the cursor
Esc + T	Swap the last two words before the cursor
Ctrl + R	Lets you search through previously used commands
Ctrl + L or Command + K	Clears the Screen
Ctrl + C	Kill whatever you are running
Ctrl + D	Exit the current shell

## CORE COMMANDS

cd	Home directory
cd [folder]	Change directory
cd ~	Home directory, e.g. 'cd ~/folder/'
cd /	Root of drive
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
open .	Opens the directory

top	Displays active processes. Press q to quit
nano [file]	Opens the Terminal it’s editor
pico [file]	Opens the Terminal it’s editor
q	Exit
clear	Clear screen

## COMMAND HISTORY

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

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

## DIRECTORY MANAGEMENT


mkdir [dir]	Create new directory
mkdir -p [dir]/[dir]	Create nested directories
rmdir [dir]	Remove directory ( only operates on empty directories )
rm -R [dir]	Remove directory and contents

## PIPES – Allows to combine multiple commands that generate output

more	Output content delivered in screensize chunks
> [file]	Push output to file, keep in mind it will get overwritten
>> [file]	Append output to existing file
<	Tell command to read content from a fi


HELP

[command] -h	Offers help
[command] —help	Offers help
[command] help	Offers help
reset	Resets the terminal display
man [command]	Show the help for ‘command’
whatis [command]	Gives a one-line description of ‘command’



III-Student-III commented on Oct 3, 2017

<https://gist.github.com/poopsplat/7195274#shortcuts>



III-Student-III commented on Oct 3, 2017

dxrt  
awve  
awver  
aewvr  
avwer  
awevr  
avwer  
we  
wev  
er  
esv  
sve  
esv  
rvbgt  
bht  
nt  
im8  
n5  
be  
4vw  
scq  
23ew  
svw  
t34  
by5by  
n6e  
7  
7  
k567  
67r  
56  
45vw4  
cq3r  
cw  
rt  
  
er  
evby  
nrtu  
ymu  
nt  
r  
ev

```
rv
crt
cr
crt
r
etv
rty
r
rby
rty
ty
tuy
im
mit6
tn
nt
rt
v
ev
r
ertw
crw
c
ert
r
ry
rt
ntu
in
tb
r

e
cr
cr
etv
hr
hy
tyr
jrnt
unti
tuy
```



valmassoi commented on Nov 1, 2017

```
rm -i [file]
```

 is duplicated:  
  
rm -i [file] | Remove with confirmation  
...  
rm -i [file] | Will display prompt before




hepcat72 commented on Feb 27, 2018


Are those shortcuts shell specific. ctrl-r doesn't do anything for me and I know ctrl-d is end of input, not exit current shell.



yemper commented on May 20, 2018




this was truely a help, thank you. i appricate it.



**omridevk** commented on Jul 9, 2018


ESC + backspace - will delete word, works better than ctrl + w in most cases.



**gyant** commented on Jul 12, 2018


**@omridevk**

The downside to ESC + backspace is you have to disengage ESC after every word deleted or it starts deleting single characters as normal. If you're deleting multiple words, CTRL + w has the expected behavior without needing to disengage CTRL for every word.



**rahafajaj** commented on Oct 31, 2018

Useful shortcuts! Thanks!



**MomoKaku** commented 3 days ago

thanks buddy, appreciate it