

# Cheat sheet shell mac

## SHORTCUTS

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 file

## 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'