



COMMAND LINE CHEAT SHEET

presented by Tower - the best Git client for Mac and Windows

DIRECTORIES

Display path of current working directory

\$ pwd

Change directory to <directory>

\$ cd <directory>

Navigate to parent directory

\$ cd ..

List directory contents

\$ ls

List detailed directory contents, including hidden files

\$ ls -la

Create new directory named <directory>

\$ mkdir <directory>

OUTPUT

Output the contents of <file>

\$ cat <file>

Output the contents of <file> using the less command (which supports pagination etc.)

\$ less <file>

Output the first 10 lines of <file>

\$ head <file>

Direct the output of <cmd> into <file>

\$ <cmd> > <file>

Append the output of <cmd> to <file>

\$ <cmd> >> <file>

Direct the output of <cmd1> to <cmd2>

\$ <cmd1> | <cmd2>

Clear the command line window

\$ clear

FILES

Delete <file>

\$ rm <file>

Delete <directory>

\$ rm -r <directory>

Force-delete <file> (add -r to force-delete a directory)

\$ rm -f <file>

Rename <file-old> to <file-new>

\$ mv <file-old> <file-new>

Move <file> to <directory> (possibly overwriting an existing file)

\$ mv <file> <directory>

Copy <file> to <directory> (possibly overwriting an existing file)

\$ cp <file> <directory>

Copy <directory1> and its contents to <directory2> (possibly overwriting files in an existing directory)

\$ cp -r <directory1> <directory2>

Update file access & modification time (and create <file> if it doesn't exist)

\$ touch <file>

PERMISSIONS

Change permissions of <file> to 755

\$ chmod 755 <file>

Change permissions of <directory> (and its contents) to 600

\$ chmod -R 600 <directory>

Change ownership of <file> to <user> and <group> (add -R to include a directory's contents)

\$ chown <user>:<group> <file>

SEARCH

Find all files named <file> inside <dir> (use wildcards [*] to search for parts of filenames, e.g. "file.*")

\$ find <dir> -name "<file>"

Output all occurrences of <text> inside <file> (add -i for case-insensitivity)

\$ grep "<text>" <file>

Search for all files containing <text> inside <dir>

\$ grep -rl "<text>" <dir>

NETWORK

Ping <host> and display status

\$ ping <host>

Output whois information for <domain>

\$ whois <domain>

Download <file> (via HTTP[S] or FTP)

\$ curl -O <url/to/file>

Establish an SSH connection to <host> with user <username>

\$ ssh <username>@<host>

Copy <file> to a remote <host>

\$ scp <file> <user>@<host>:/remote/path

PROCESSES

Output currently running processes

\$ ps ax

Display live information about currently running processes

\$ top

Quit process with ID <pid>

\$ kill <pid>