

MEGA TERMINAL

Keyboard shortcuts

editing text (always works)

{almost}

backspace

Ctrl+W delete word

Ctrl+U delete line

(except in text editors)

editing text

(these often work in a readline-like situation)

arrow keys

Ctrl+A or Home beginning of line

Ctrl+E or End end of line

Ctrl+arrow keys left/right a word
(or sometimes Alt + arrow keys
or Option + arrow keys
or Alt+b / Alt+f)

Ctrl+K delete forward

Ctrl+Y paste

Ctrl+H might help if Backspace doesn't work

also many shells have a "vi mode" if that's your jam

in less

/ search

n/N next/prev match

space/PageDn scroll down

ways to quit

Ctrl+C quit (SIGINT)

Ctrl+Z stop process (SIGTSTP)
(resume with fg or bg
or kill with kill)

Ctrl+D quit (in a REPL)

q quit (in a TUI)

Enter ~ . exit frozen
SSH session

Ctrl+\ send SIGQUIT
(quit and core dump)

other useful stuff

Ctrl+L clear screen

Ctrl+R search history

Ctrl+Q unfreeze screen (that you accidentally froze
with Ctrl+S)

copy and paste

in your terminal emulator,
it's usually:

Ctrl+Shift+C/V
or Cmd+C/V

if selecting text doesn't work,
try holding Shift

mouse stuff that might work

Option+click place cursor

or Alt+click place cursor

scroll wheel scroll

fixing broken output

fix messed up terminal

clear the screen:

clear

ask the terminal emulator & OS to reset everything:

reset

(or just open a new tab!)

force program not to buffer its output

make its output a TTY with:
unbuffer CMD

core tasks

glob expansion

expand filenames with `*`
`ls *.png` "glob"

expand in all subdirectories:
`wc **/*.txt`
(not all shells support ** though)
include files starting with a dot:
`ls .*`

switch users

run a command as root with sudo
`sudo cmd`
or start a new shell as root:
`su`

change directories

go to home directory:
`cd`
go to prev directory:
`cd -`
go to /some/dir:
`cd /some/dir`

set environment variables

set a variable for one command:
`env NAME=val cmd`
`NAME=val cmd`

(they do almost the same thing but I prefer the env version because it behaves the same in every shell)

set it for the whole session:
`export NAME=val`

(also what you put in your bash/zsh config file to set it permanently, in fish it's set -x NAME val)

view environment:

`env`

search environment:

`env | grep MAIL`

