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## Cheatsheets / Learn the Command Line



# Navigating the File System

# pwd Print Working Directory

The shell command pwd displays the file path from the root directory to the current working directory.

\$ pwd
/Users/sonny/Downloads

## mkdir Make Directory

The shell command mkdir is used to make a new directory in the filesystem according to its argument. If a file path is given, the new directory will be placed at the end. Otherwise, it will create a new directory in the current working directory.

```
$ mkdir new-directory
$ ls
old-directory new-directory
```

#### 1s List

The shell command ls is used to list the contents of a directory. If no arguments are given, it will list the contents of the current working directory.

\$ ls Desktop
resume.pdf
photo.png

# cd Change Directory

The shell command  $\ cd$  is used to move throughout the filesystem of a computer. It accepts a variety of arguments:

- Full file paths.
- Names of children of the current directory.
- .. the parent of the current directory.

\$ cd some-directory
\$ cd ..

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# **Filesystem Structure**

A computer's filesystem organizes the data stored by a computer, so that it can be easily retrieved by the user. Files are generally represented in a tree-like structure, in which any parent directory can have any number of children. The root directory is then found at the base of the tree.

## touch Create New File

The shell command touch creates a new file in the current working directory with the name provided.

\$ touch grocery-list.txt

### The Command Line

The command line allows a user to navigate the filesystem and run built-in programs or custom scripts. In Unix, the command line interface is called Bash, and the shell prompt is the \$ .

\$

# **Helper Commands**

Helper commands for the command line include:

- clear to clear the terminal
- tab to autocomplete the line
- and to cycle through previous commands



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