Bash Cheatsheet

1 Moving the cursor

Shortcut	Description
Ctrl + a or Home	Go to the beginning of the line
Ctrl + e or End	Go to the end of the line
Alt + b	One word backward to the left
Alt + f	One word forward to the right
Ctrl + b or Left	One character backward to the left
Ctrl + f or Right	One character forward to the right
Ctrl + xx	Toggle between the start of line and current cursor position specified using *xx*
Tab	Tab completion for file and directory names
Ctrl + p or Up	Go back to previous command
Ctrl + n or Down	Go forward to next command

2 Copy and paste

| Shortcut	Description
Ctrl + w	Cut the word before the cursor to the clipboard
Ctrl + k	Cut the line after the cursor to the clipboard
Ctrl + u	Cut the line before the cursor to the clipboard
Ctrl + y	Paste the last word/line that was cut

3 Deleting characters and words

Shortcut	Description
Ctrl + l	Clear the screen
Alt + Del	Delete the word before the cursor
Alt + d	Delete the word after the cursor
Ctrl + d or Del	Delete the character under the cursor
Ctrl + h or Backspace	Delete the character before the cursor
Ctrl + K	Delete all text from the cursor to the end of the line
Ctrl + X followed by Backspace	Delete all text from the cursor to the beginning of the line

4 Change spelling

Shortcut	Description
Alt + l	Lower the case of every character from the cursor to the end of the current word
Alt + u	Capitalize every character from the cursor to the end of the current word
Alt + c	Capitalize the character under the cursor and move to the end of the word
Alt + r	Cancel the changes and put back the line as it was before (revert)
Alt + –	Undo last action

5 Swapping characters and words

`Alt` + `t`	Swap current word with previous one
`Ctrl` + `t`	Swap the last two characters before the cursor
`Esc` + `t`	Swap the last two words before the cursor

6 History

`Ctrl` + `r`	Recall the last command including the specified character(s). Searches the command history as you type.
`Ctrl` + `p`	Previous command in history
`Ctrl` + `n`	Next command in history
`Ctrl` + `s`	Go back to the next most recent command
`Ctrl` + `o`	Execute the command previously found via `Ctrl` + `r` or `Ctrl` + `s`
`Ctrl` + `g`	Escape from history searching mode
`!` `!`	Repeat last command
`!$`, `Esc` + `.`, or `Alt` + `.`	Last argument of previous command

7 Process control

`Ctrl` + `c`	Interrupt/Kill whatever process you are running (SIGINT)
`Ctrl` + `l`	Clear the screen
`Ctrl` + `s`	Stop output to the screen (for long running verbose commands), then use navigation keys `PgUp` and `PgDn` to browse
`Ctrl` + `q`	Allow output to the screen (if previously stopped using command above)
`Ctrl` + `d`	Send an EOF marker, unless disabled by an option, this will close the current shell (EXIT)
`Ctrl` + `z`	Send the signal SIGTSTP to the current task, which suspends it. To return to it later enter `fg` *process name* (foreground)

8 Emacs mode vs Vi mode

Unless otherwise configured Bash is running in the default Emacs setting. If you prefer this can be switched to Vi shortcuts instead. Enable Vi mode in Bash as follows:

```
set -o vi
```

Enable Emacs mode in bash as follows:

```
set -o emacs
```