



Terminal

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Terminal Basics

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Using Terminal Commands

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Basic Command Prompt Commands

First: Folder = Directory. These terms are synonymous, and we will be intentionally using both, just the same as a folder, and vice versa.

Where am I???

`cd` stands for "Change Directory" though we can use it without any other commands to tell us to change the current directory any time you are unsure where you are currently in your file structure.

```
c:\Users\Jonathan>cd
c:\Users\Jonathan
```

List files

Use `dir` command to see all the files and folders that are in your current directory.

```
C:\Users\Jonathan>dir
Volume in drive C is OS
Volume Serial Number is 67EF-C36B
Directory of C:\Users\Jonathan

01/16/2017  08:07 PM    <DIR>          .
01/16/2017  08:07 PM    <DIR>          ..
11/01/2016  03:47 PM    <DIR>          .atom
05/01/2016  08:21 PM                32 .bashrc
11/29/2016  07:52 AM            8,698 .bash_history
05/01/2016  08:21 PM                99 .bash_profile
06/07/2016  02:41 PM    <DIR>          .config
09/29/2016  11:01 AM            748 .dbshell
06/28/2016  06:53 AM    <DIR>          .gem
03/22/2016  04:31 PM            338 .gitconfig
05/01/2016  08:26 PM    <DIR>          .idlerc
05/05/2016  08:32 AM                73 .minttyrc
06/12/2016  10:24 PM                0 .mongorc.js
06/24/2016  06:53 AM    <DIR>          .node-gyp
06/08/2016  07:41 PM            27 .node_repl_history
07/01/2016  09:39 AM            108 .npmrc
03/22/2016  04:24 PM    <DIR>          .p4qt
04/22/2016  07:20 AM    <DIR>          .ssh
03/21/2016  07:52 PM            757 .viminfo
12/07/2016  09:13 PM    <DIR>          .VirtualBox
11/22/2013  03:57 PM                0 agent.log
01/13/2017  08:54 AM    <DIR>          Contacts
01/16/2017  03:11 PM    <DIR>          Desktop
01/13/2017  08:54 AM    <DIR>          Documents
01/17/2017  11:06 AM    <DIR>          Downloads
01/13/2017  08:54 AM    <DIR>          Favorites
05/05/2014  11:45 AM    <DIR>          Google Drive
10/31/2016  01:50 PM    <DIR>          JonathanBenAmmi
01/13/2017  08:54 AM    <DIR>          Links
01/13/2017  08:54 AM    <DIR>          Music
08/05/2015  05:32 AM    <DIR>          OneDrive
01/13/2017  08:54 AM    <DIR>          Pictures
11/13/2013  05:08 AM    <DIR>          Roaming
01/13/2017  08:54 AM    <DIR>          Saved Games
01/13/2017  08:54 AM    <DIR>          Searches
09/14/2016  03:59 PM    <DIR>          SkyDrive
12/23/2015  04:38 PM    <DIR>          Tracing
01/13/2017  08:54 AM    <DIR>          Videos
12/07/2016  08:24 AM    <DIR>          VirtualBox VMs

            11 File(s)              10,880 bytes
            28 Dir(s)  759,995,834,368 bytes free
```

Traversing a folder structure

File systems are stored as a hierarchy, which means most directories (folders) have either a parent or child directory.

To traverse down into a child folder from the current directory, you would use `cd [folder_name]` where `[folder_name]` is the name of the child folder.

```
cd [folder name]
C:\Users\Jonathan>cd JonathanBenAmmi
C:\Users\Jonathan\JonathanBenAmmi>
```

To traverse up to a parent folder from where you currently are, it's `cd ..` (Pronounced: "cd dot dc")

```
cd ..
C:\Users\Jonathan\JonathanBenAmmi>cd ..
C:\Users\Jonathan>
```

`cd \` and `cd /` will change the current directory to the root directory of your computer. From this application folders and the entire contents of the drive. Pronounced: "c d slash"

```
cd / or cd \
C:\Users\Jonathan\JonathanBenAmmi>cd /
C:\>
C:\Users\Jonathan>cd \
C:\>
```

Making a new folder

The command `md [folder name]` will make a new directory named *newFolder*. Whatever argument be the name of your new file. After making the directory, you could run `cd newFolder` to enter it. The command to see the new folder you created inside your current directory.

```
C:\Users\Jonathan\JonathanBenAmmi>md newFolder
```

Delete a folder

If you try to delete a folder with contents inside you will get an error! Our computer wants us to delete the directory and everything inside of it by passing the `/s` option. **Be careful with this command** as it didn't intend to delete or delete some configuration files that you don't want to delete at all!

empty folder

```
rd [folder name]
C:\Users\Jonathan\JonathanBenAmmi>rd newFolder
```

non-empty folder

```
rd /s [folder name]
C:\Users\Jonathan\JonathanBenAmmi>rd /s newFolder
```

Creating a new file/Copying a file

The `copy` command In essence is telling Windows to copy what is in parameter one into a file. If the file specified doesn't exist, Windows will create it. If your first parameter is NUL, it will create an empty file.

After creating a new file run `dir` and you will see your new files in the current directory!

Empty file

```
copy NUL [file name]
C:\Users\Jonathan\JonathanBenAmmi>copy NUL readME.txt
```

Copy file

```
copy [original file name] [copy file name]
C:\Users\Jonathan\JonathanBenAmmi>copy readME.txt newReadMe.txt
```

Moving a file

Moving a file using the `move [current path/file] [new path/file]` command will allow you to move a file to another. Please note you need to put the pathing in so it knows where to find the file and where to move it to.

```
move [current path/file name] [new path/file name]
C:\Users\Jonathan\JonathanBenAmmi>move .\readME.txt ../readMe.txt
```

Removing a file

Deleting a file using the `del` command will remove the file without any prompt. If you want to be prompted before deleting a file, you can add in the `/p` to the command.

```
del [file name]
C:\Users\Jonathan\JonathanBenAmmi>del readMe.txt
del /p [file name]
C:\Users\Jonathan\JonathanBenAmmi>del /p readMe.txt
C:\Users\Jonathan\JonathanBenAmmi\readMe.txt, Delete? (Y/N)?
```

Renaming a file

The *ren* command is shorthand for "rename" and will rename the file specified by the first parameter to the second parameter.

After you run the command you can use *dir* to see the change in the current directory.

```
ren [old file name] [new file name]
C:\Users\Jonathan\JonathanBenAmmi>ren readMe.txt readYou.txt
```

Copying and Moving a directory

Use *xcopy* [source folder] [destination] to copy a folder, and all of its contents to another location. Use the following commands if the destination folder does not already exist

/s : Copies directories and subdirectories, unless they are empty.

/e : Copies all subdirectories, even if they are empty.

/i : If Source is a directory or contains wildcards and Destination does not exist, xcopy assumes the name and creates a new directory. Then, xcopy copies all specified files into the new directory. Use the */d* switch to specify whether Destination is a file or a directory.

Use *move* [source folder] [new location] to physically move a file or folder to a new location.

```
xcopy [original folder] [copy folder]
C:\Users\Jonathan\JonathanBenAmmi>xcopy .\newFolder .\folderCopy /e /s /i
move [source folder] [new location]
C:\Users\Jonathan\JonathanBenAmmi>move myfile.html .\newFolder
```

Opening the current directory in File Explorer

```
start .
C:\Users\Jonathan\JonathanBenAmmi>start .
```

In Summary

Obviously, this is just the tip of the iceberg in the world of command, but these are the basic commands. For a more detailed list of commands, see these link below:

List of Command Line (Windows) commands. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_DOS_commands)