

(Windows). The main difference is that the command line is fully text-based.






This Cheat Sheet not only features the most important commands, but also keyboard shortcuts that make working with the CLI a lot easier. 😎



Here are the commonly used commands.

Navigation

Command	Description
echo output-here	Print what is typed next to this command.
pwd	Print the current working directory.
cat file-name.extension	Print the contents of a file.
ls	List the contents of the current directory.
cd directory-name	Change into an existing directory.
cd ..	Change backward into an existing directory.
cd directory-name/sub-directory-name	Change forward on multiple directories.
cd ../..	Change backward on multiple directories.
clear	Clear the command line screen.

Keyboard Shortcuts

Shortcut	Description
	Complete the name of an existing file or directory being typed.
 / 	Retype commands that were previously written.
 + 	Clear the command line screen.

Note: Even after clearing the command line screen, you can still use previous commands with the  and  arrow keys!

Command	Description
<code>mkdir</code>	Create a new directory from the current directory.
<code>touch</code>	Create and save a new file.
<code>echo "text" > file</code>	Overwrite existing content in file with "text".
<code>echo "this text" >> file</code>	Write "this text" to existing content in file .
<code>cat file-a > file-b</code>	Overwrite content of file-b with content of file-a .
<code>cat file-a >> file-b</code>	Add content of file-a to content of file-b .
<code>mv source-file target-file</code>	Move/rename the source-file into the target-file .
<code>mv source-directory target-directory</code>	Move/rename the source-directory into the target-directory .
<code>rm file</code>	Delete a file .
<code>rm -r directory</code>	Delete a non-empty directory .
<code>rmdir directory</code>	Delete an empty directory .
<code>cp file-a > file-b</code>	Copy content of file-a into a file-b (overwriting anything already inside).
<code>cp -r directory-a directory-b</code>	Copy content of directory-a into a directory-b (overwriting anything already inside).

Operators

Operator	Description	Example
<code>></code>	Overwrite the contents of a file with the results of a command.	<code>echo "Hello, World" > file.txt</code>
<code>>></code>	Add the result of a command to the end of a file.	<code>echo "Hello, World" >> file.txt</code>

;	Run multiple commands in a row, one after another.	<code>echo "Howdy there!" ; cat file.txt</code>
	Logical OR: Runs an alternative command if the first one fails.	<code>mkdir work echo "Directory creation failed. Does it already exist?"</code>
&&	Logical AND: Runs the next command if the first one succeeds.	<code>mkdir video-games && cd video-games</code>

That's all! Make sure to bookmark this page so you always have it in your tool box. And if you have any questions about the [Command Line](#) course, feel free to ask them in our Discord community ([#command-line](#) channel) or the [OPC](#).

Happy coding! ■

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