

### 24.1.7 How do I clear the screen?

If you only have to do so infrequently, use `system`:

```
system("clear");
```

If you have to do this a lot, save the clear string so you can print it 100 times without calling a program 100 times:

```
$clear_string = 'clear';
print $clear_string;
```

If you're planning on doing other screen manipulations, like cursor positions, etc, you might wish to use `Term::Cap` module:

```
use Term::Cap;
$terminal = Term::Cap->Tgetent( {OSPEED => 9600} );
$clear_string = $terminal->Tputs('cl');
```

### 24.1.8 How do I get the screen size?

If you have `Term::ReadKey` module installed from CPAN, you can use it to fetch the width and height in characters and in pixels:

```
use Term::ReadKey;
($wchar, $hchar, $wpixels, $hpixels) = GetTerminalSize();
```

This is more portable than the raw `ioctl`, but not as illustrative:

```
require 'sys/ioctl.ph';
die "no TIOCGWINSZ " unless defined &TIOCGWINSZ;
open(TTY, "+</dev/tty") or die "No tty: $!";
unless (ioctl(TTY, &TIOCGWINSZ, $winsize='')) {
    die sprintf "$0: ioctl TIOCGWINSZ (%08x: $!)\n", &TIOCGWINSZ;
}
($row, $col, $xpixel, $ypixel) = unpack('S4', $winsize);
print "(row,col) = ($row,$col)";
print " (xpixel,ypixel) = ($xpixel,$ypixel)" if $xpixel || $ypixel;
print "\n";
```

### 24.1.9 How do I ask the user for a password?

(This question has nothing to do with the web. See a different FAQ for that.)

There's an example of this in `crypt` in *perlfunc*. First, you put the terminal into "no echo" mode, then just read the password normally. You may do this with an old-style `ioctl()` function, POSIX terminal control (see *POSIX* or its documentation the Camel Book), or a call to the `stty` program, with varying degrees of portability.

You can also do this for most systems using the `Term::ReadKey` module from CPAN, which is easier to use and in theory more portable.

```
use Term::ReadKey;

ReadMode('noecho');
$password = ReadLine(0);
```