

An A-Z Index of the **Apple OS X** command line (TERMINAL)

The tcsh command shell of Darwin (the open source core of OSX)

alias	Create an alias
alloc	List used and free memory
awk	Find and Replace text within file(s)
basename	Convert a full pathname to just a folder path
bash	Bourne-Again SHell (Linux)
bless	Set volume bootability and startup disk options.
break	Exit from a loop
cal	Display a calendar
case	Conditionally perform a command
cat	Display the contents of a file
cd	Change Directory
chflags	Change a file or folder's flags.
chgrp	Change group ownership
chmod	Change access permissions
chown	Change file owner and group
chroot	Run a command with a different root directory
cksum	Print CRC checksum and byte counts
clear	Clear terminal screen
cmp	Compare two files
comm	Compare two sorted files line by line
complete	Edit a command completion [word/pattern/list]
continue	Resume the next iteration of a loop
cp	Copy one or more files to another location
cron	Daemon to execute scheduled commands
crontab	Schedule a command to run at a later date/time
cut	Divide a file into several parts
date	Display or change the date & time
dc	Desk Calculator
dd	Data Dump - Convert and copy a file
df	Display free disk space
diff	Display the differences between two files
diff3	Show differences among three files
dig	DNS lookup
dirname	Convert a full pathname to just a path
dirs	Display list of remembered directories

diskutil Disk utilities - Format, Verify, Repair
ditto Copy files and folders
dscl Directory Service command line utility
du Estimate file space usage

echo Display message on screen
ed A line-oriented text editor (edlin)
enable Stop or start printers and classes.
env Set environment and run a utility
eval Evaluate several commands/arguments
exec Execute a command
exit Exit the shell
expect Programmed dialogue with interactive programs
Also see AppleScript
expand Convert tabs to spaces
expr Evaluate expressions

false Do nothing, unsuccessfully
fdisk Partition table manipulator for Darwin UFS/HFS/DOS
find Search for files that meet a desired criteria
fmt Reformat paragraph text
fold Wrap text to fit a specified width
for Expand words, and execute commands
foreach Loop, expand words, and execute commands
fsck Filesystem consistency check and repair
fsaclctl Filesystem enable/disable ACL support
fs_usage Filesystem usage (process/pathname)
ftp Internet file transfer program

GetFileInfo Get attributes of HFS+ files
getopt Parse positional parameters
goto Jump to label and continue execution
grep Search file(s) for lines that match a given pattern
groups Print group names a user is in
gzip Compress or decompress files

head Display the first lines of a file
hdiutil Manipulate iso disk images
history Command History
hostname Print or set system name

id Print user and group names/id's

if Conditionally perform a command
info Help info
install Copy files and set attributes

jobs List active jobs
join Join lines on a common field

kill Stop a process from running

l List files in long format (ls -l)
ll List files in long format, showing invisible files (ls -la)
less Display output one screen at a time
ln Make links between files (hard links, symbolic links)
locate Find files
logname Print current login name
login log into the computer
logout Exit a login shell (bye)
lpr Print files
lprm Remove jobs from the print queue
lpstat Printer status information
ls List information about file(s)
lsbom List a bill of materials file
lsuf List open files

man Help manual
mkdir Create new folder(s)
mkfifo Make FIFOs (named pipes)
more Display output one screen at a time
mount Mount a file system
mv Move or rename files or directories

net Manage network resources
nice Set the priority of a command
nohup Run a command immune to hangups

onintr Control the action of a shell interrupt
open Open a file/folder/URL/Application
osascript Execute AppleScript

passwd Modify a user password
paste Merge lines of files
pbcopy Copy data to the clipboard

pbpaste Paste data from the Clipboard
pico Simple text editor
ping Test a network connection
pmset Power Management settings
popd Restore the previous value of the current directory
pr Convert text files for printing
printenv Print environment variables
printf Format and print data
ps Process status
pushd Save and then change the current directory
pwd Print Working Directory

quota Display disk usage and limits

rcp Copy files between machines.
repeat Execute a command multiple times
rm Remove files
rmdir Remove folder(s)
rpm Remote Package Manager
rsync Remote file copy - Sync file tree (also RsyncX)

say Convert text to audible speech
sched Schedule a command to run at a later time.
screencapture Capture screen image to file or disk
sdiff Merge two files interactively
security Administer Keychains, keys, certificates and the Security framework
sed Stream Editor
set Set a shell variable = value
setenv Set an environment variable = value
setfile Set attributes of HFS+ files
shift Shift positional parameters
shutdown Shutdown or restart OS X
sleep Delay for a specified time
softwareupdate System software update tool
sort Sort text files
split Split a file into fixed-size pieces
stop Stop a job or process
su Substitute user identity
sudo Execute a command as another user
sum Print a checksum for a file
switch Conditionally perform a command

tail	Output the last part of files
tar	Tape ARchiver
tee	Redirect output to multiple files
test	Condition evaluation
textutil	Manipulate text files in various formats
time	Measure Program Resource Use
touch	Change file timestamps
traceroute	Trace Route to Host
tr	Translate, squeeze, and/or delete characters
true	Do nothing, successfully
tty	Print filename of terminal on stdin
type	Describe a command
umask	Users file creation mask
umount	a device
unalias	Remove an alias
uname	Print system information
unexpand	Convert spaces to tabs
uniq	Uniquify files
units	Convert units from one scale to another
unset	Remove variable or function names
unsetenv	Remove environment variable
users	Print login names of users currently logged in
uuencode	Encode a binary file
uudecode	Decode a file created by uuencode
vi	Text Editor
wc	Print byte, word, and line counts
where	Report all known instances of a command
which	Locate a program file in the user's path
while	Execute commands
who	Print all usernames currently logged on
whoami	Print the current user id and name (`id -un')
xargs	Execute utility - passing arguments
yes	Print a string until interrupted

Note: tcsh is the default shell in OS X Jaguar (10.2) Panther (10.3) and Tiger (10.4) default to bash - many commands do work in either shell, but this page will soon be updated to list the bash syntax.