



macos 15 create desktop shortcuts for cli commands

In macOS 15, you can create desktop shortcuts for command-line (CLI) commands using several built-in methods. [🔗](#)

1. Using the Apple Shortcuts App (Recommended)

This method integrates best with macOS and allows you to customize the icon and appearance. [🔗](#)

1. Open the **Shortcuts** app from your Applications folder or Launchpad.
2. Click the **+** (plus) icon to create a new shortcut.
3. In the search bar on the right, type "**Run Shell Script**" and double-click the action to add it.
4. Type your CLI command into the script box. (e.g., `top` or `brew update`).
5. **(Optional)** Click the icon next to the shortcut name to change its color or glyph.
6. To put it on the desktop: Go to the **File** menu > **Add to Dock**, then drag it from your Dock to your desktop. Alternatively, you can use the **Shortcuts** menu > **Settings** > **Services** to make it a Quick Action. [🔗](#)

2. Creating a `.command` Executable File

This is the "classic" macOS method that creates a file you can double-click directly on your desktop to launch Terminal and run a script. [🔗](#)

1. Open **TextEdit** and ensure it is in **Plain Text** mode (**Format** > **Make Plain Text**).
2. Type your script, starting with a shebang line:

```
bash
#!/bin/bash
your_command_here
```

Use code with caution. ✖

3. Save the file to your desktop with the extension `.command` (e.g., `myscript.command`).
4. Open **Terminal** and make the file executable by running:
`chmod +x ~/Desktop/myscript.command`.
5. Double-clicking this file on your desktop will now run your command in a new Terminal window. [🔗](#)

3. Using Automator (Application)

Automator can wrap a script into a standalone "Application" that lives on your desktop. [🔗](#)

1. Open **Automator** and select **New Document > Application**.
2. Search for the "**Run Shell Script**" action and drag it into the workflow.
3. Enter your command in the text area.
4. Save the file to your **Desktop**. It will appear as an app icon that runs your command when opened. [🔗](#)

4. Creating a Desktop Alias (Shortcut) to Terminal

If you simply want a shortcut to the Terminal app itself:

1. Open **Finder** and go to **Applications > Utilities**.
2. Right-click on **Terminal** and select **Make Alias**.
3. Drag the new alias to your **Desktop**. [🔗](#)



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