VS Code Terminal Cheat Sheet

This cheat sheet covers common terminal commands used in the VS Code Terminal (Linux/MacOS or Windows Git Bash/PowerShell). These commands help navigate and manage files and directories.

File and Directory Navigation

Command	Description	Example
`ls` or `dir`	Lists files and directories in the current directory.	`ls` shows `file.txt folder/`.
`cd <directory>`	Changes the current directory to `<directory>`.	`cd Documents` navigates to the Documents folder.
`cd ..`	Moves up one directory level.	`cd ..` from `/home/user/docs` goes to `/home/user`.
`cd /`	Navigates to the root directory.	`cd /` goes to the top-level directory.
`pwd`	Prints the current working directory path.	`pwd` outputs `/home/user/project`.

File Management

Command	Description	Example
`touch <file>`	Creates an empty file.	`touch index.html` creates `index.html`.
`mkdir <directory>`	Creates a new directory.	`mkdir src` creates a `src` folder.
`cp <source> <dest>`	Copies a file or directory.	`cp file.txt file2.txt` copies `file.txt`.
`mv <source> <dest>`	Moves or renames a file or directory.	`mv file.txt docs/` moves `file.txt` to `docs`.
`rm <file>`	Deletes a file.	`rm file.txt` deletes `file.txt`.
`rm -r <directory>`	Deletes a directory and its contents.	`rm -r temp/` deletes the `temp` folder.

File Viewing and Editing

Command	Description	Example
`cat <file>`	Displays the contents of a file.	`cat file.txt` shows `file.txt`'s contents.
`nano <file>`	Opens a file in the Nano text editor.	`nano file.txt` edits `file.txt`.
`code <file>`	Opens a file in VS Code.	`code index.html` opens `index.html` in VS Code.

System and Utility Commands

Command	Description	Example
`clear`	Clears the terminal screen.	`clear` refreshes the terminal view.
`man <command>`	Shows the manual for a command.	`man ls` displays the `ls` manual.
`echo $PATH`	Displays the systems PATH variable.	`echo $PATH` shows executable directories.
`which <command>`	Shows the path of a command.	`which python` outputs `/usr/bin/python`.

Notes

- Commands are case-sensitive on Linux/MacOS.

- Use `Tab` for auto-completion of file/directory names.

- Use `-help` with most commands (e.g., `ls -help`) for quick help.

- Windows users: Some commands (e.g., `ls`) may require Git Bash or WSL for full compatibility.