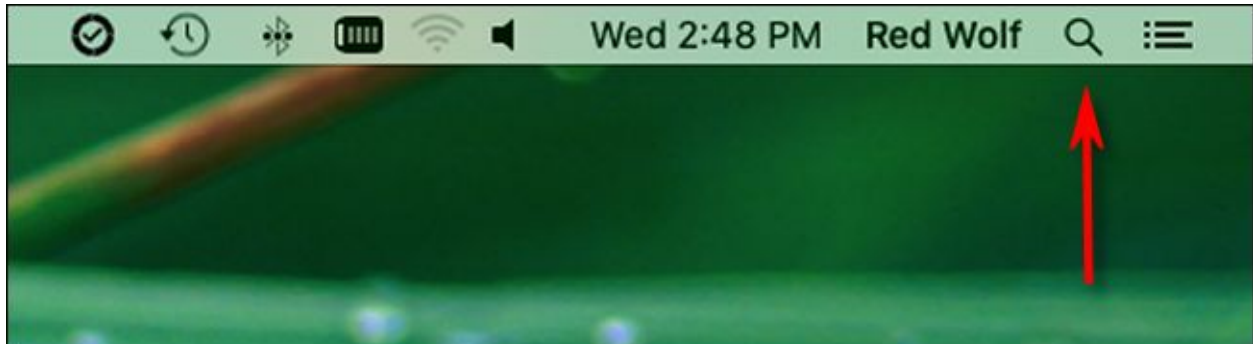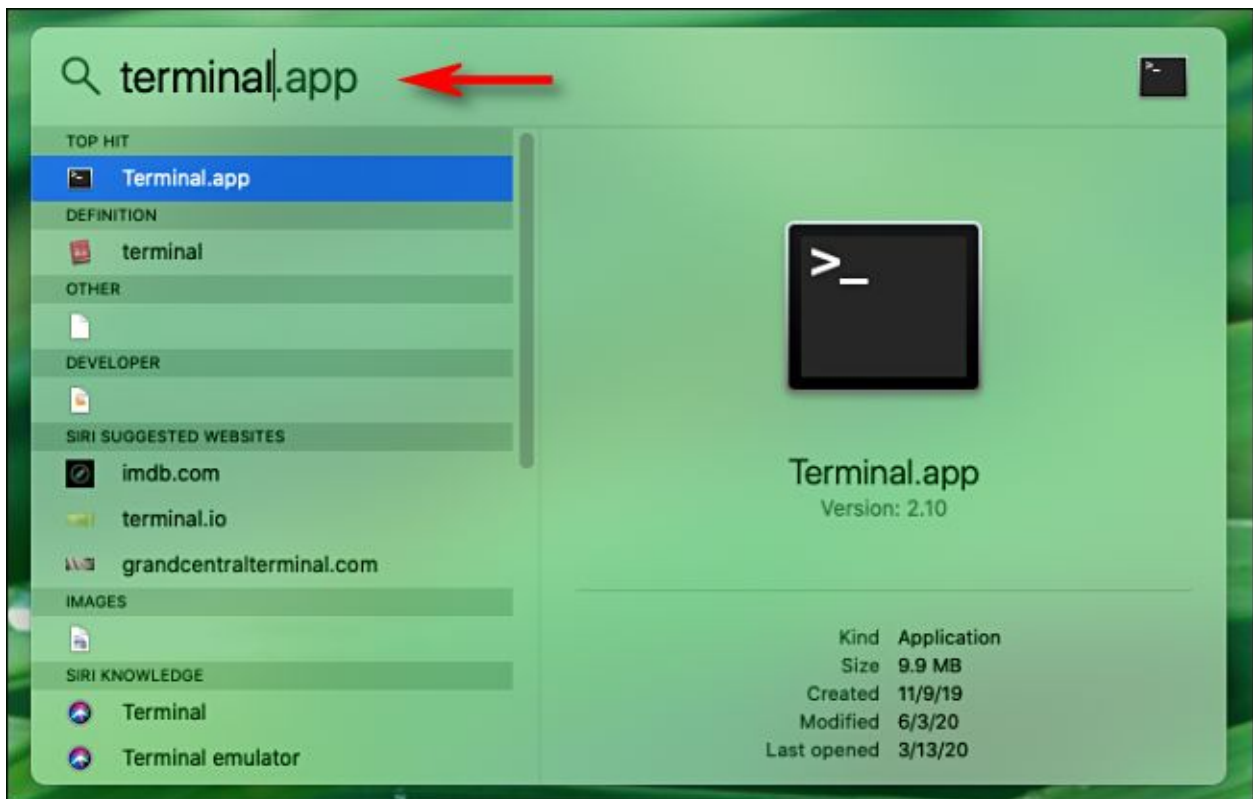# Open Terminal Using Spotlight Search

Perhaps the easiest and quickest way to open Terminal is through Spotlight Search. To launch Spotlight, click the small magnifying glass icon in your menu bar (or press Command+Space).

When the Spotlight Search bar pops up on your screen, type "terminal.app" and hit Return. Or you can click the Terminal.app icon that appears.
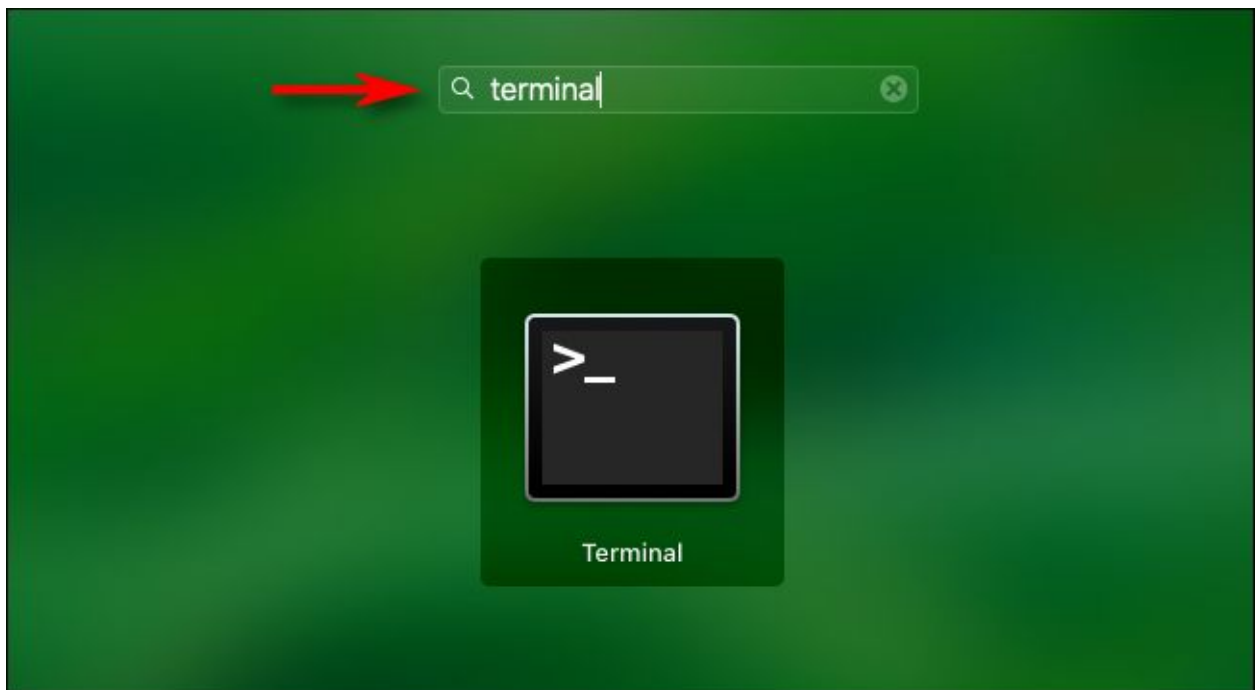
The terminal will launch, and you'll be ready to go.

How to Open Terminal from Launchpad

You can also open Terminal quickly from Launchpad. If you have Launchpad in your dock, click the rocket ship icon—or press "F4" on your keyboard to launch it.

When Launchpad opens, type "Terminal" and hit return. Or you can click the "Terminal" icon.
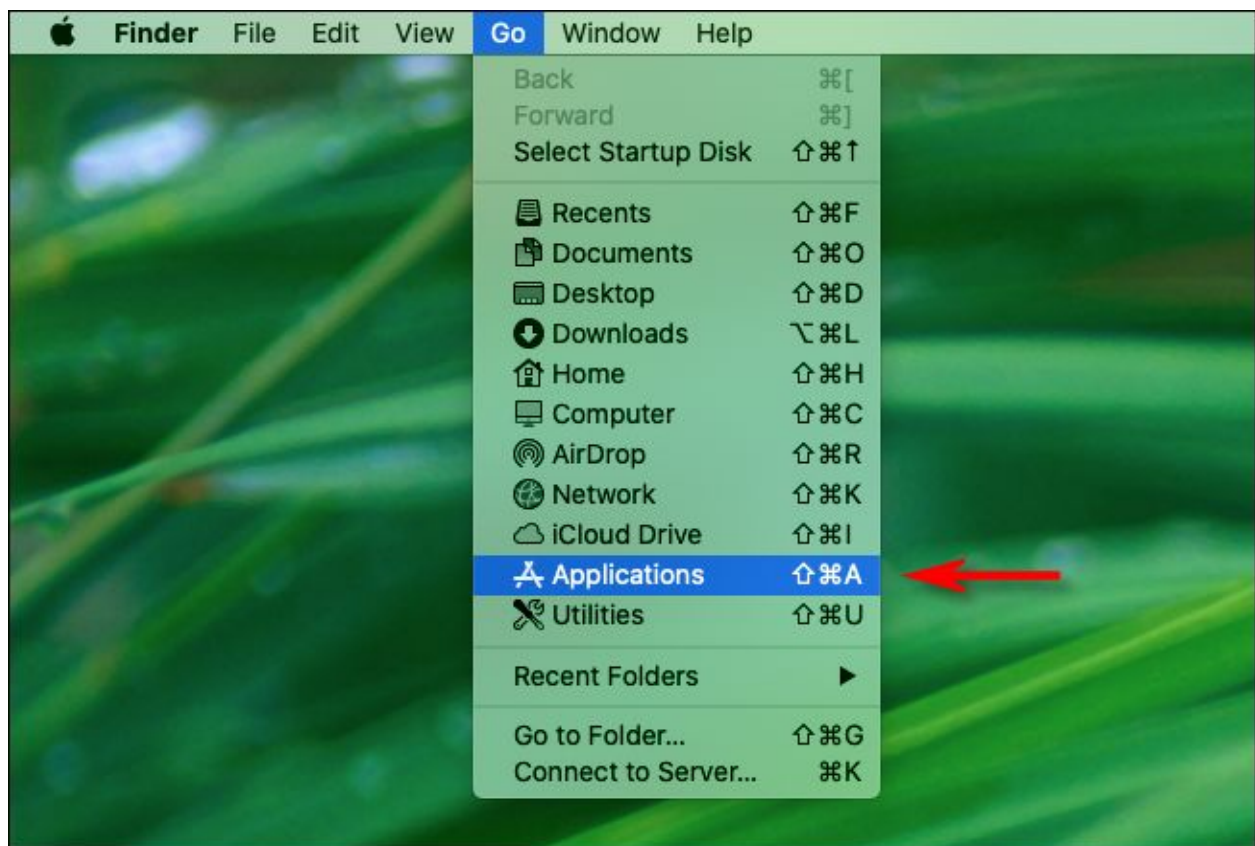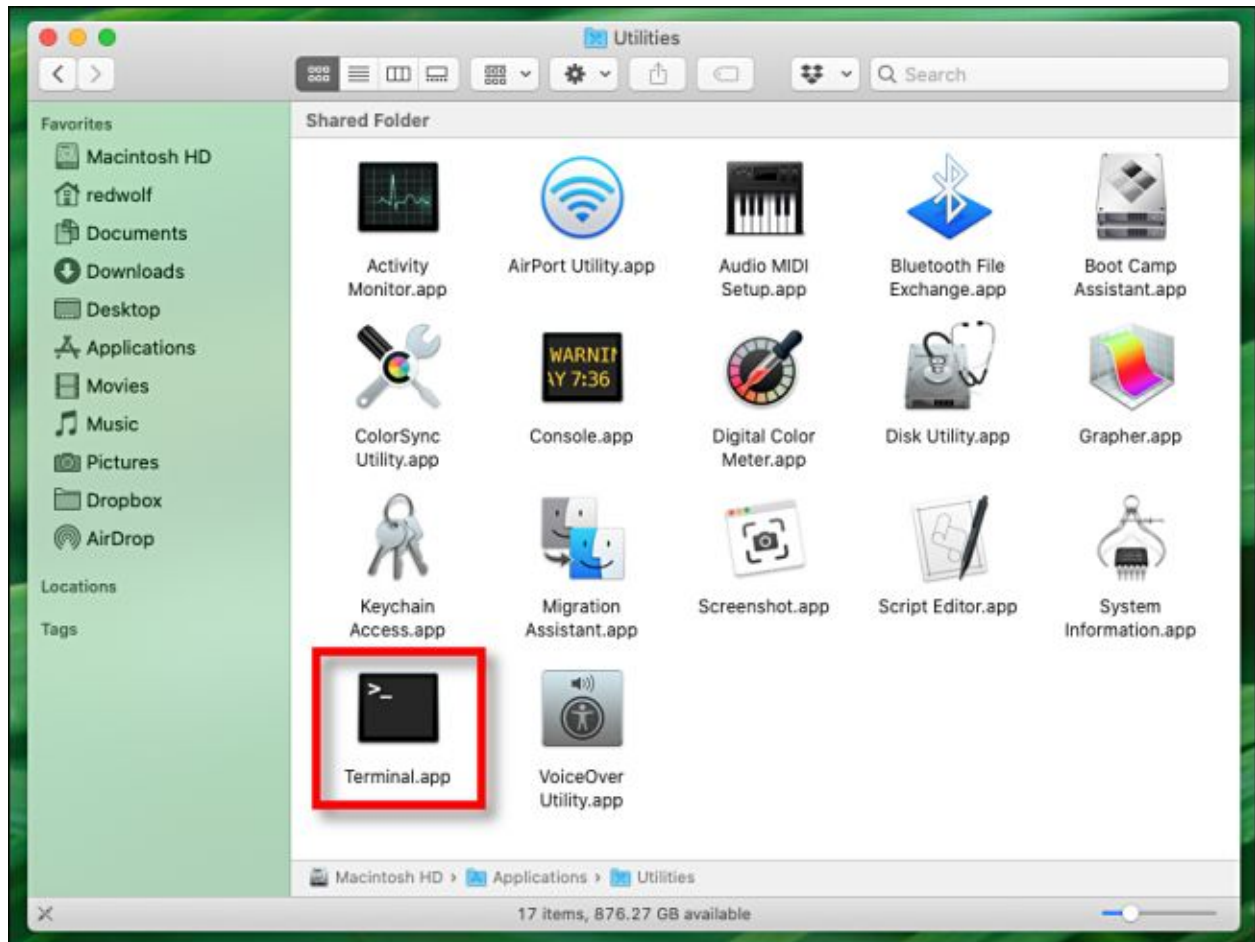
The Terminal app will open.

How to Open Terminal from Your Applications Folder

If you'd prefer to go launch Terminal from the program icon in Finder, you'll usually find it located in the /Applications/Utility folder. This is its default location on fresh installations of macOS.

To open Terminal from your Applications folder, click your desktop to bring Finder into focus. In the menu bar, click "Go" and select "Applications."

Your Applications folder will open. Scroll through until you find the "Utilities" folder. Double-click the "Utilities" folder to open it. Inside, you will find Terminal.

Double-click the Terminal.app icon and the Terminal will open.

Keep the Terminal in Your Dock for Faster Access

After launching Terminal, if you'd like to quickly access it again in the future, you can choose to keep its icon in your Dock. Just right-click the Terminal icon on your Dock and select "Options > Keep in Dock." The next time you need to run Terminal, just click its Dock icon. Have fun on the command line!

Starting with macOS Catalina, the default command-line shell is Zsh, but you can switch back to the Bash shell if you prefer it.