

## Using the Command Line

*I'm not sure what web sites I screen grabbed these from ... sorry ... Suzanne Berger*

Today, many end users rarely, if ever, use command-line interfaces and instead rely upon [graphical user interfaces](#) and menu-driven interactions. However, many software developers, system administrators and advanced users still rely heavily on command-line interfaces to perform tasks more efficiently, configure their machine, or access programs and program features that are not available through a graphical interface.

A **command-line interface** or **command language interpreter (CLI)**, also known as **command-line user interface**, **console user interface**<sup>[1]</sup> and **character user interface (CUI)**, is a means of interacting with a [computer program](#) where the [user](#) (or [client](#)) issues [commands](#) to the program in the form of successive lines of text (command lines). A program which handles the interface is called a **command language interpreter** or [shell \(computing\)](#).

(eg: Windows: MS-DOS, PowerShell, Linux and Mac: Bash, C-Shell )

Programs with command-line interfaces are generally easier to automate via [scripting](#).

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 Command Prompt

```
C:\Users\suzanne\Documents\scripts>python isprime.py
Enter a positive integer: 13
Input 13 is a prime number

C:\Users\suzanne\Documents\scripts>python isprime.py
Enter a positive integer: 4
Input 4 is not a prime number

C:\Users\suzanne\Documents\scripts>echo %USERNAME%
suzanne

C:\Users\suzanne\Documents\scripts>
```