

# mega terminal cheat sheet

## Keyboard shortcuts

### editing text (always works)

(almost)

backspace

Ctrl+W delete word Ctrl+U delete line (except in text editors)

### editing text (often works)

arrow keys

Ctrl+A beginning of line or Home

Ctrl+E end of line

Ctrl + arrow left/right a word or sometimes Alt + arrow keys or Option + arrow keys or Alt+b/Alt+f

Ctrl+K delete forward

paste Ctrl + Y

Ctrl+H might help if Backspace doesn't work

also many shells have a "vi mode" if that's your jam

search n/N next/prev match space/PageDn scroll down

### ways to quit

quit (SIGINT) Ctrl+C

Ctrl + Zstop process (SIGTSTP) (resume with  $\underline{fg}$  or  $\underline{bg}$  or Kill with  $\underline{kill}$ )

quit (in a REPL) Ctrl + D

quit (in a TUI)

exit frozen SSH session Enter  $\sim$  .

Ctrl+\ send SIGQUIT (quit and core dump)

### other useful stuff

Ctrl+L clear screen

search history Ctrl+R

unfreeze screen (that Ctrl+Q you froze with Ctrl+S)

### copy and paste

in your terminal emulator, it's usually:

Ctrl + Shift + C/V

or Cmd + C/V

if selecting text doesn't work, try holding Shift

### mouse stuff that might work

Option + click

place cursor or Alt + click

scroll wheel

### core tasks

### glob expansion

expand filenames with  $\boxed{\star}$ ls \*.png

expand in all subdirectories: wc \*\*/\*.txt

(not all shells support \*\* though)

### switch users

run a command as root with sudo sudo cmd

or start a new shell as root:

su

### change directories

go to home directory: cd

go to prev directory:

cd -

go to /some/dir:

cd /some/dir

### set environment variables

set a variable for just one command:

env NAME=val cmd ← they do almost the same NAME=val cmd ✓ thing but I prefer the env version because it behaves the same in every shell

set it for the whole session:

export NAME=val ←

also what you put in your bash/zsh config file to set it permanently (in fish it's

view environment:

env

search environment:

env | grep MAIL

# pipes & redirects

redirect to a file: cmd > file.txt



append to a file:

cmd >> file.txt

send a file to stdin:

cmd < file.txt</pre>



(append mode) 7

terminal

redirect stderr to a file:

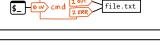
cmd 2> file.txt



program

redirect stdout AND stderr:

cmd > file.txt 2>&1



pipe output to a program:

cmd1 | cmd2



pipe both stdout AND stderr:

cmd1 2>&1 | cmd2



### more useful commands

look at history:

history

rerun previous command as root:

sudo !! ~ bash/zsh

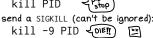
search history:

Ctrl+R

### killing programs

send a SIGTERM:

kill PID



Kill all processes with python3 anywhere in its arguments: pkill python3

Kill all processes named python3:

killall python3

see what's using all your CPU: top or htop find a process's PID to Kill it:

\$ ps aux | grep python3 bork 7213 ... python3

the PID

### fix messed up terminal

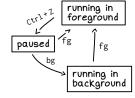
clear the screen: clear

ask the terminal emulator & OS to reset everything:

reset

(or just close it and open a new tab!)

## job control



list jobs: lists numbered jobs, jobs ← you can refer to them like %2

stop a program from closing when the terminal tab is closed: nohup CMD disown %1

force program not to buffer its output

make its output a TTY: unbuffer CMD

use LD\_PRELOAD hacks to change libe's buffering: stdbuf (TODO)

### aliases

alias ll="ls -l"

### PATH debugging

find the first time a program appears in PATH:

find all instances of program in PATH:

which -a CMD

ask your shell if CMD is a function or alias or program: