

TERMINAL KEYS AND COMMANDS

Symbols

⌘	command <i>or</i> cmd	⇧	shift
⌥	option <i>or</i> alt	^	control <i>or</i> ctrl
→	tab	↵	return

Navigating the Prompt

left ← / right → arrow	move the cursor left / right
⌥←, ⌥→	move left / right by word
ctrl-A	move to beginning of line
ctrl-E	move to end of line
ctrl-XX (twice)	toggle between beginning of line and current position
ctrl-U	clear line left of cursor to the beginning
ctrl-K	clear line right of cursor to the end
ctrl-W	delete word left of cursor
⌥ click	move cursor to click
ctrl-L <i>or</i> ⌘ ^ L	clear screen (but not current prompt line)
⌘ K	clear to start (screen and scroll buffer)

Completion

tab →	complete current command or path
tab (twice) →→	list possible completions
esc (twice)	replaces globbing characters (~, ?, *, etc.), lists possible paths if not unique

Recall History

up ↑ / down ↓ arrow	recall previous / next command from history
ctrl-R, then type	search history for what you type
ctrl-G	cancel history search
esc, then . (dot)	inserts last argument of previous command

Marks and Bookmarks

⌘ up ↑ / down ↓	scroll to previous / next mark
⌘ L	clear to previous mark
⌘ ⌥ L	clear to previous bookmark
⌘ U	set mark manually
⌘ ⌥ U	set bookmark
⌘ ⌥ up ↑ / down ↓	scroll to previous / next bookmark
⌘ ⇧ ↵	send return without marking
⌘ ↵	send return with marking (when automatic marking is disabled)

Selection

⌘ ⇧ double-click	select path or URL
⌘ ⇧ V	paste selection (no need to copy)
⌘ ^ V	paste and escape text
⌘ ⇧ up ↑ / down ↓	select to previous / next mark
⌘ ⇧ A	select output of previous command

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The Open Command

`$ open .`
Open current working directory in a new Finder window

`$ open path/to/dir`
Opens *path/to/dir* in a new Finder window

`$ open file.ext`
Opens *file.ext* in default application (same as double-clicking)

`$ open -a AppName file.ext`
Opens *file.ext* with application *AppName*

`$ open -e file.txt`
Opens *file.txt* in Text Editor

`$ open -t file.txt`
Opens *file.txt* in default application for txt files

`$ some_cmd | open -f`
Opens `stdin` to new Text Editor document

`$ some_cmd | open -tf`
Opens `stdin` in new document in default application for txt files

`$ open -R file.ext`
reveals (shows and selects) *file.ext* in Finder window

`$ open http://scriptingosx.com`
Opens URL in default application (works with vnc, smb etc.)

Finder Terminal Interaction

drag folder on Terminal icon:
open new window and change to directory

drag executable on Terminal icon:
open new window, run executable, then `exit`
(may open and close window very quickly)

drag item(s) on Terminal window:
insert escaped path(s) to item(s) at cursor

command-drag folder on Terminal window:
changes directory to dragged folder

command-drag file on Terminal window:
changes directory to enclosing folder of file

Clipboard Commands

copy output of a command to clipboard
`$ some_cmd | pbcopy`

copy contents of *file.txt* to the clipboard
`$ cat file.txt | pbcopy`

copy output of a command *and* print to `stdout`
`$ some_cmd | pbcopy; pbpaste`

print clipboard contents to `stdout`
`$ pbpaste`

write clipboard contents to *file.txt*
`$ pbpaste > file.txt`

append clipboard contents to *file.txt*
`$ pbpaste >> file.txt`