

>_ Basic Bash



Last Update 2021-06-26 | [@Im_tavo](#) |

Basic Shortcuts

- (TAB) **complete**: Attempt to perform completion on the text before point. [\[more\]](#)
- (C-j) **accept-line**: Send a newline (\n)
- (C-c) **interrupt (kill)**: The current foreground process running in the terminal. [\[more\]](#)
- (C-d) **end-of-file (EOF)**: If there are no chars on the line Readline returns EOF
- (C-z) **suspend**: stop the program execution. fg to resume, jobs -l to list and kill <id> to close it [\[more\]](#)
- (M-.) **insert-last-argument**: Move 'backwards' through the previous arguments
- (C-p) **previous-history**: Move 'backward' through the history list, fetching the previous command.
- (C-n) **next-history**: Move 'forward' through the history list, fetching the next command.
- (C-r) **reverse-search-history**: Search 'backward' through the history. This is an incremental-search.
- (C-s) **forward-search-history**: Search 'forward' through the history. Important! You need to disable the xon first to use it (stty -ixon)
- (C-a) **beginning-of-line**: Move to the start of the line.
- (C-e) **ending-of-line**: Move to the end of the line
- (M-b) **backward-word**: Move backward a word
- (C-b) **backward-char**: Move backward a character.
- (M-f) **forward-word**: Move forward a word
- (C-f) **forward-char**: Move forward a character.
- (C-u) **unix-line-discard**: Kill 'backward' from the cursor to the beginning of the current line.
- (C-k) **kill-line**: Kill 'forward' from the cursor to the end of the current line.

Basic Shortcuts (cont)

- (M-BS) **delete-backward-word**: Kill the word behind point (BS = backspace)
- (M-d) **delete-forward-word**: Kill from point to the end of the current word
- (C-l) **clear-screen**: Clear the screen, reprinting the current line at the top.
- (C-/) **undo**: Incremental undo, separately remembered for each line.
- (C-y) **yank**: Yank the top of the kill-ring into the buffer at point. [\[more\]](#)
- (M-y) **yank-pop**: Rotate the kill-ring, and yank the new top. You can only do this if the prior command is yank or yank-pop.
- (C-s) **transmit-off (XOFF)**: Stops the data flow from the keyboard [\[more\]](#)
- (C-q) **transmit-on (XON)**: Enable the data flow and release all the info contained [\[more\]](#)

(C-): Control key = Ctrl

(M-): Meta key [⌘] = Alt, [⌘] = Opt (check Notes)

It is a loose convention that (C-) operate on chars while (M-) operate on words. [\[more\]](#)

'Cut' and 'paste' are more recent jargon for 'kill' and 'yank'.

Notes

For Firefox users: Cheathography uses a preload option to load the icons and firefox disable it by default. To enable it. Write this in the URL bar `about:config`, search the `network.preload` option and set it true

You can find more info in this link [\[more\]](#)

For Mac users: The Meta key is setted to the ESC, but you can set the Opt key as well. Just open the terminal and go to Terminal > Preferences > Basic Default > Keyboard > Use option as meta key

If you need more information, read this tutorial [\[more\]](#)

Spanish Keyboard Mac users: There are some users that say that the configuration of Opt key above can disable some keys like `~#~}~\|`

For Windows user There are some ways tu use the bash shortcuts in terminal. if you want to use the native powershell, check this [\[Article\]](#) to see how to use Bash shortcuts

I really loved doing this cheatsheet, I expect that it could helps you



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gnu.org: Bash Reference Manual

ss64.com: syntax-keyboard

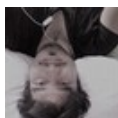
howtogeek.com : keyboard-shortcuts...

catern.com: Terminals are weird

catonmat.nrt: Bash emacs editing mode

github.com: awesome-cheatsheets

cheatography.com: Bash shortcuts, full-list



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