An A-Z Index of the **Apple OS X** command line (TERMINAL)

The tcsh command shell of Darwin (the open source core of OSX)

alias   Create an alias
alloc   List used and free memory
awk   Find and Replace text within file(s)

basename Convert a full pathname to just a folder path
bash   Bourne-Again SHell (Linux)
bless   Set volume bootability and startup disk options.
break   Exit from a loop

cal   Display a calendar
case   Conditionally perform a command
cat   Display the contents of a file
cd   Change Directory
chflags   Change a file or folder's flags.
chgrp   Change group ownership
chmod   Change access permissions
chown   Change file owner and group
chroot   Run a command with a different root directory
cksum   Print CRC checksum and byte counts
clear   Clear terminal screen
cmp   Compare two files
comm   Compare two sorted files line by line
complete Edit a command completion [word/pattern/list]
continue Resume the next iteration of a loop
cp   Copy one or more files to another location
cron   Daemon to execute scheduled commands
crontab   Schedule a command to run at a later date/time
cut   Divide a file into several parts

date   Display or change the date & time
dc   Desk Calculator
dd   Data Dump - Convert and copy a file
df   Display free disk space
diff   Display the differences between two files
diff3   Show differences among three files
dig   DNS lookup
dirname   Convert a full pathname to just a path
dirs   Display list of remembered directories

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diskutil  Disk utilities - Format, Verify, Repair
ditto     Copy files and folders
dscl      Directory Service command line utility
du        Estimate file space usage

echo      Display message on screen
ed        A line-oriented text editor (edlin)
enable    Stop or start printers and classes.
env       Set environment and run a utility
eval      Evaluate several commands/arguments
exec      Execute a command
exit      Exit the shell
expect    Programmed dialogue with interactive programs
          Also see AppleScript
expand    Convert tabs to spaces
expr      Evaluate expressions

false     Do nothing, unsuccessfully
fdisk     Partition table manipulator for Darwin UFS/HFS/DOS
find      Search for files that meet a desired criteria
fmt       Reformat paragraph text
fold      Wrap text to fit a specified width
for       Expand words, and execute commands
foreach   Loop, expand words, and execute commands
fsck      Filesystem consistency check and repair
fsaclctl  Filesystem enable/disable ACL support
fs_usage  Filesystem usage (process/pathname)
ftp       Internet file transfer program

GetFileInfo Get attributes of HFS+ files
getopt    Parse positional parameters
goto      Jump to label and continue execution
grep      Search file(s) for lines that match a given pattern
groups    Print group names a user is in
gzip      Compress or decompress files

head      Display the first lines of a file
hdiutil   Manipulate iso disk images
history   Command History
hostname  Print or set system name

id        Print user and group names/id's
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if   Conditionally perform a command
info   Help info
install   Copy files and set attributes

jobs   List active jobs
join   Join lines on a common field

kill   Stop a process from running

l   List files in long format (ls -l)
ll   List files in long format, showing invisible files (ls -la)
less   Display output one screen at a time
ln   Make links between files (hard links, symbolic links)
locate   Find files
logname   Print current login name
login   log into the computer
logout   Exit a login shell (bye)
lpr   Print files
lprm   Remove jobs from the print queue
lpstat   Printer status information
ls   List information about file(s)
lsbom   List a bill of materials file
lsof   List open files

man   Help manual
mkdir   Create new folder(s)
mkfifo   Make FIFOs (named pipes)
more   Display output one screen at a time
mount   Mount a file system
mv   Move or rename files or directories

net   Manage network resources
nice   Set the priority of a command
nohup   Run a command immune to hangups

onintr   Control the action of a shell interrupt
open   Open a file/folder/URL/Application
osascript Execute AppleScript

passwd   Modify a user password
paste   Merge lines of files
pbcopy   Copy data to the clipboard

pbpaste   Paste data from the Clipboard
pico   Simple text editor
ping   Test a network connection
pmset   Power Management settings
popd   Restore the previous value of the current directory
pr   Convert text files for printing
printenv Print environment variables
printf   Format and print data
ps   Process status
pushd   Save and then change the current directory
pwd   Print Working Directory

quota   Display disk usage and limits

rcp   Copy files between machines.
repeat   Execute a command multiple times
rm   Remove files
rmdir   Remove folder(s)
rpm   Remote Package Manager
rsync   Remote file copy - Sync file tree (also RsyncX)

say   Convert text to audible speech
sched   Schedule a command to run at a later time.
screencapture Capture screen image to file or disk
sdiff   Merge two files interactively
security Administer Keychains, keys, certificates and the Security
framework
sed   Stream Editor
set   Set a shell variable = value
setenv   Set an environment variable = value
setfile   Set attributes of HFS+ files
shift   Shift positional parameters
shutdown Shutdown or restart OS X
sleep   Delay for a specified time
softwareupdate System software update tool
sort   Sort text files
split   Split a file into fixed-size pieces
stop   Stop a job or process
su   Substitute user identity
sudo   Execute a command as another user
sum   Print a checksum for a file
switch   Conditionally perform a command

tail   Output the last part of files
tar   Tape ARchiver
tee   Redirect output to multiple files
test   Condition evaluation
textutil Manipulate text files in various formats
time   Measure Program Resource Use
touch   Change file timestamps
traceroute Trace Route to Host
tr   Translate, squeeze, and/or delete characters
true   Do nothing, successfully
tty   Print filename of terminal on stdin
type   Describe a command

umask   Users file creation mask
umount   a device
unalias   Remove an alias
uname   Print system information
unexpand Convert spaces to tabs
uniq   Uniquify files
units   Convert units from one scale to another
unset   Remove variable or function names
unsetenv Remove environment variable
users   Print login names of users currently logged in
uuencode Encode a binary file
uudecode Decode a file created by uuencode
vi   Text Editor
wc   Print byte, word, and line counts
where   Report all known instances of a command
which   Locate a program file in the user's path
while   Execute commands
who   Print all usernames currently logged on
whoami   Print the current user id and name (`id -un')

xargs   Execute utility - passing arguments
yes   Print a string until interrupted

Note: tcsh is the default shell in OS X Jaguar (10.2)
Panther (10.3) and Tiger (10.4) default to bash - many commands
do work in either shell, but this page will soon be updated to list
the bash syntax.