

How to hide, display files and folders on macOS

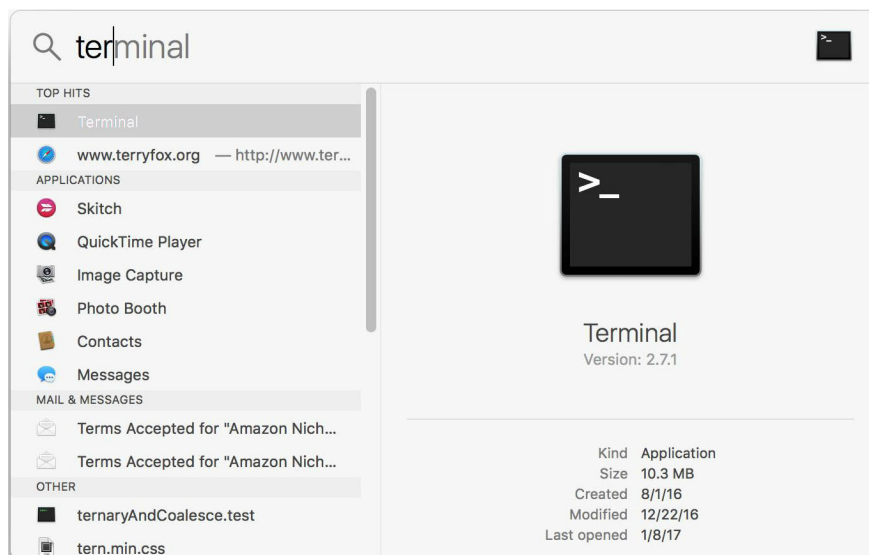
To be able to hide or show the folder again on macOS, the user is forced to use a 3rd party application or use a command on the Terminal.

In order to limit secret directories, individuals are opened, we can hide folders or any other data. On macOS, if you want to hide the folder, or the user file must use the third-party application, Command One, or use the Terminal command. In the article below, we will guide you how to hide and display the folder and data on macOS.

1. How to re-display hidden files on macOS:

Step 1:

First of all, we open the Terminal application on macOS. You can follow the [LaundPad> Other> Terminal link](#) , or enter the Terminal keyword into the Spotlight Search search box.



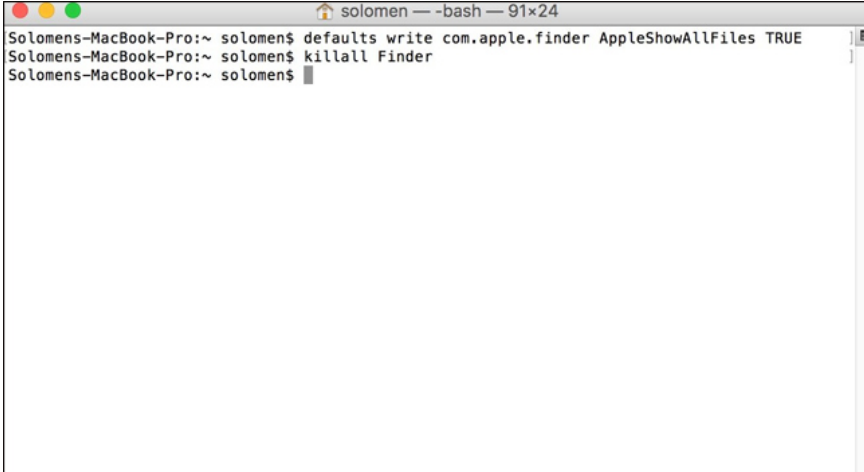
Step 2:

Then enter the following 2 lines of code and end each line with Return.

1. defaults write com.apple.finder AppleShowAllFiles TRUE
2. killall Finder

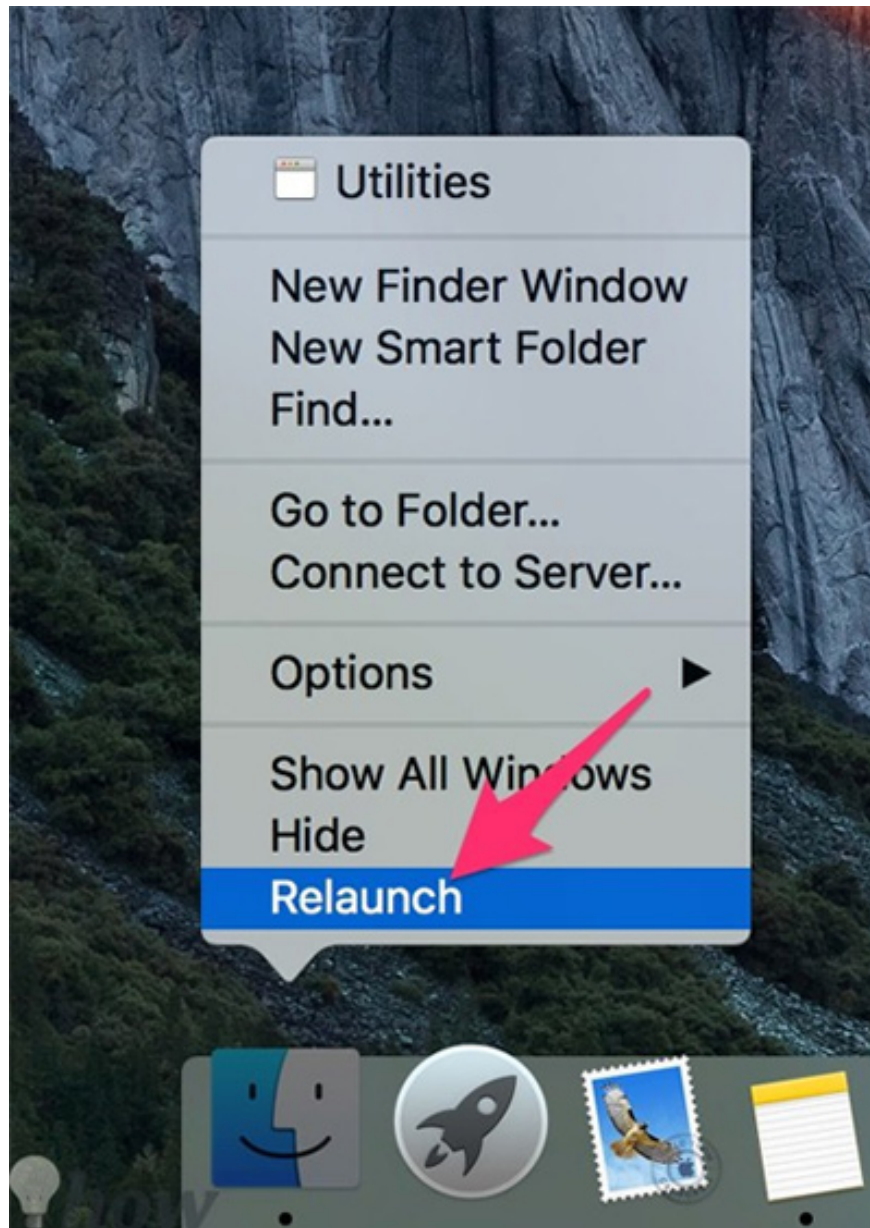
Or use the 2nd set of commands below.

1. defaults write com.apple.finder AppleShowAllFiles YES
2. killall Finder



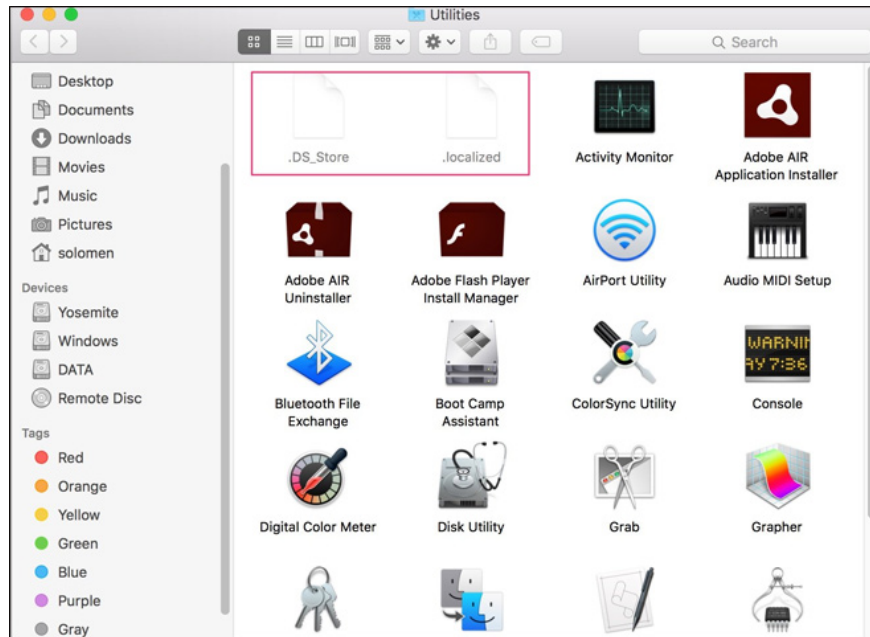
```
solomen -- -bash -- 91x24
Solomens-MacBook-Pro:~ solomen$ defaults write com.apple.finder AppleShowAllFiles TRUE
Solomens-MacBook-Pro:~ solomen$ killall Finder
Solomens-MacBook-Pro:~ solomen$
```

If the second command line group does not work, we need to start the Finder. Click and hold on the Option + Control key combination, then click the Finder icon in the Dock bar and then press Relaunch.



Step 3:

After entering the above commands, exit the Terminal window. We open the Finder and then see the previously hidden files.



2. How to hide macOS files via Terminal:

Step 1:

We also need to open Terminal to enter commands for hiding folders and files on the system. Then choose to enter 1 of the 2 command lines below into the Terminal window.

1. defaults write com.apple.finder AppleShowAllFiles NO
2. killall Finder

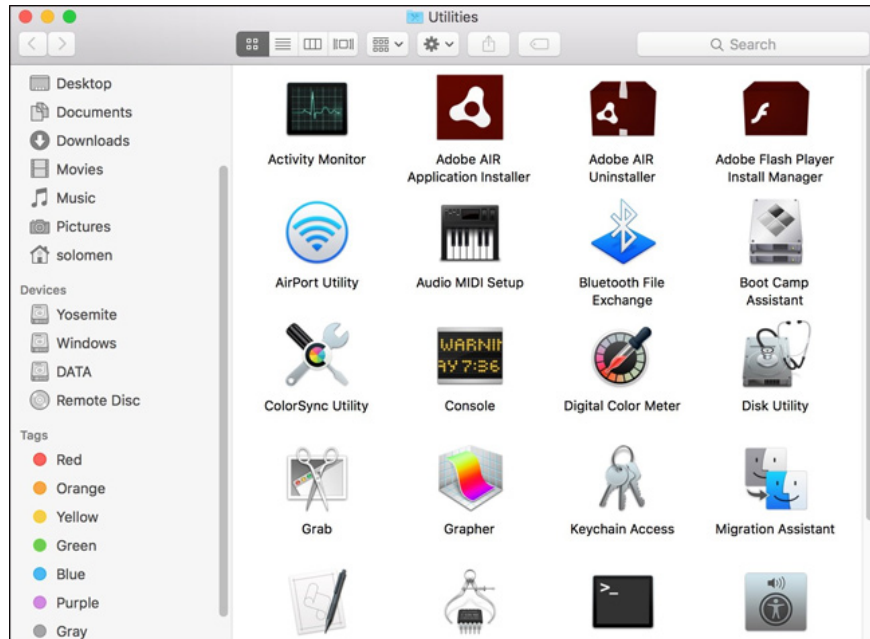
Or use the second command group below.

1. defaults write com.apple.finder AppleShowAllFiles FALSE
2. killall Finder

```
solomen -- -bash -- 92x24
Solomens-MacBook-Pro:~ solomens$ defaults write com.apple.finder AppleShowAllFiles NO
Solomens-MacBook-Pro:~ solomens$ killall Finder
Solomens-MacBook-Pro:~ solomens$
```

Step 2:

After that, the folder you want to hide does not appear.



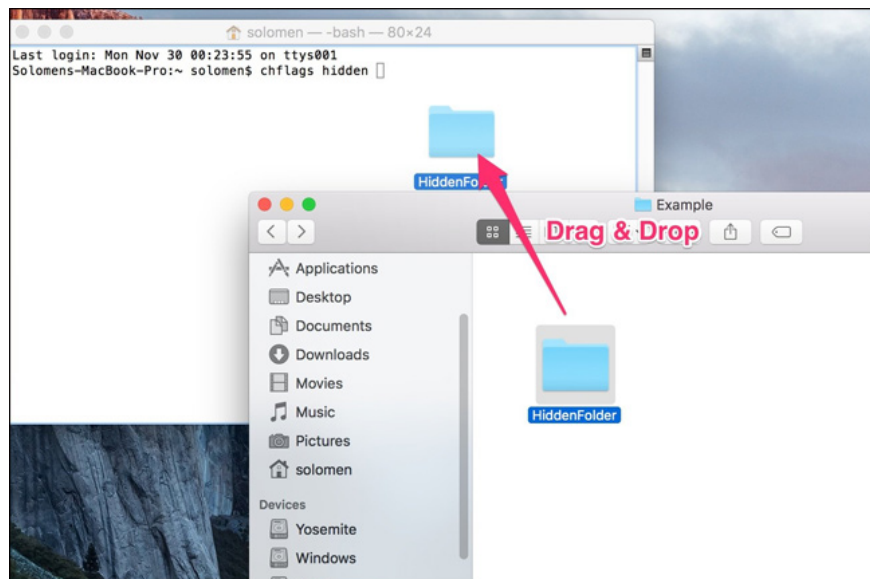
3. How to hide a separate file or folder:

Step 1:

To be able to hide a file or folder, open the Terminal application and enter the command line below.

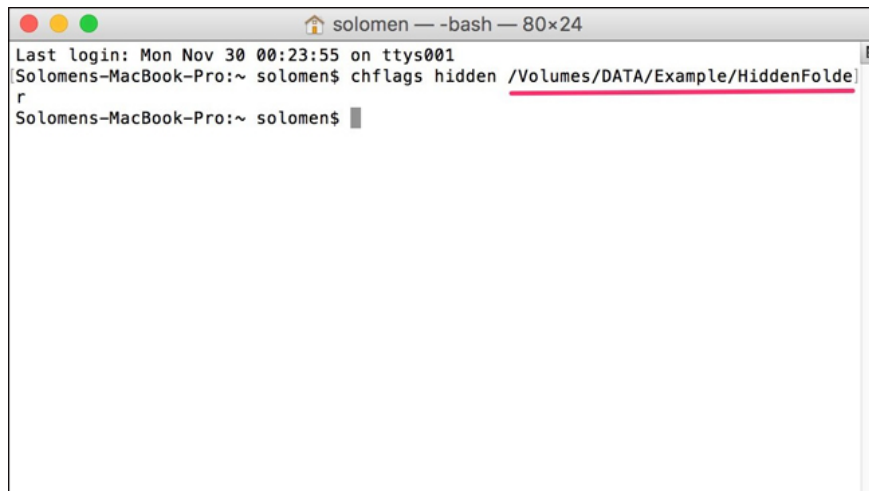
1. `chflags hidden`

Then open the file you want to hide on macOS, then **drag and drop the file after the hidden chflags command**. **Note to the user**, after the hidden, there should be a space to drag and drop the file you want to hide.



Step 2:

Soon, you will see the folder containing the hidden file that appears on the Terminal interface. Press Return to run this command. If you still don't see the hidden folder, continue to click killall Finder in Terminal and press Return.



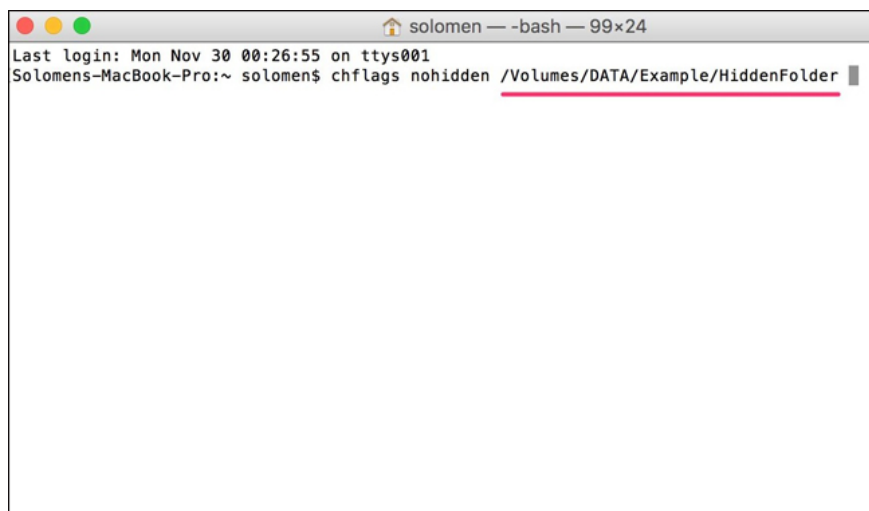
```
solomen — -bash — 80x24
Last login: Mon Nov 30 00:23:55 on ttys001
Solomens-MacBook-Pro:~ solomen$ chflags hidden /Volumes/DATA/Example/HiddenFolder
r
Solomens-MacBook-Pro:~ solomen$
```

4. Reveal separate files and folders:

How to display hidden folders or files is done the same way as when hiding them. You also need to open Terminal and enter the command below.

1. `chflags nohidden`

Then enter the directory path, or the file you want to show up behind the `nohidden` text and include the space.



```
solomen — -bash — 99x24
Last login: Mon Nov 30 00:26:55 on ttys001
Solomens-MacBook-Pro:~ solomen$ chflags nohidden /Volumes/DATA/Example/HiddenFolder
```

Above is how to hide folders, files or choose to hide separate folders with the path attached. How to hide and show hidden files on macOS is quite complicated, so please enter the correct commands and attached characters.

I wish you all success!

You finished reading the article "**How to hide, display files and folders on macOS**" edited by the [TipsMake](#) team. We hope this article has provided you with many useful tech tips and tricks. You can search for similar articles on tips and guides. Thank you for reading and for following us regularly.
