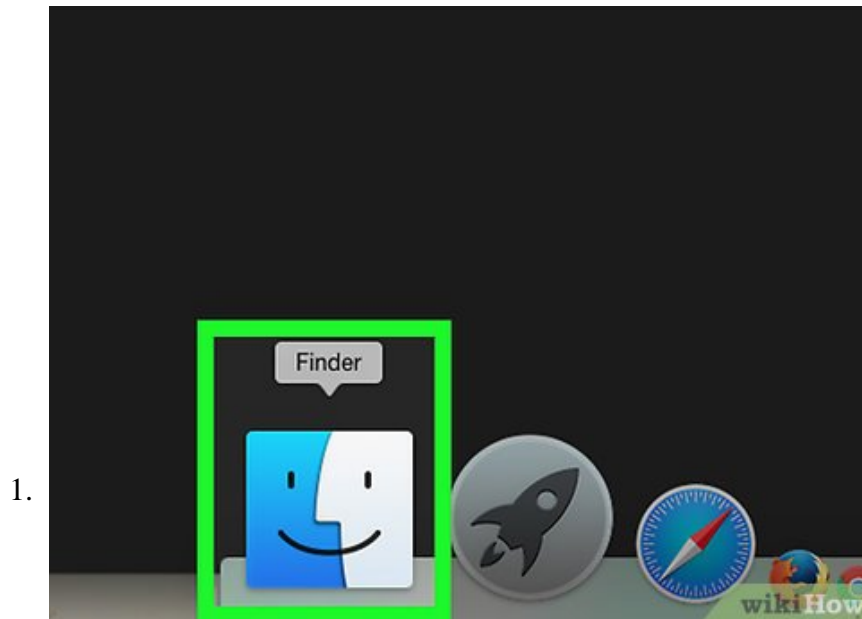


How to Show Hidden Files and Folders on a Mac

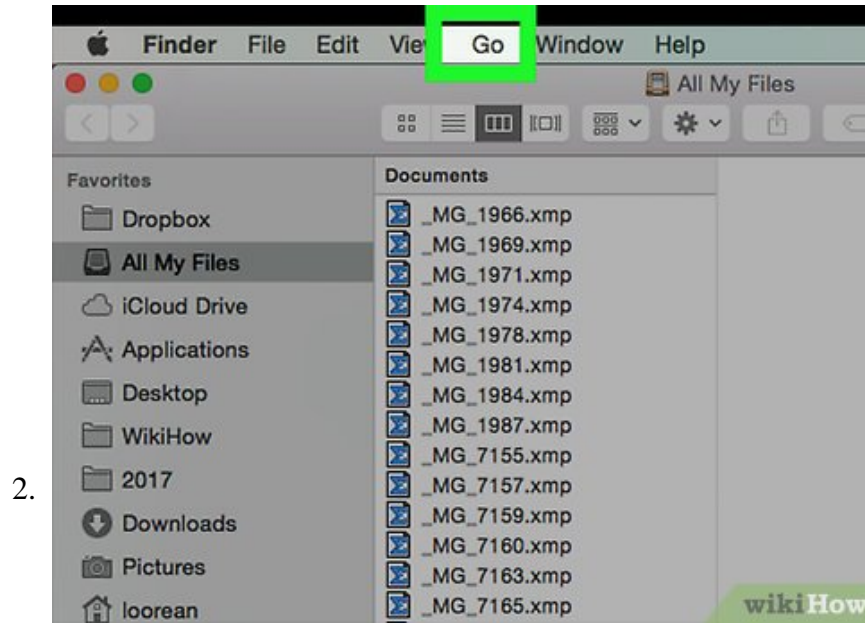
This wikiHow teaches you how to view and unhide hidden files and folders on Mac OS X by using the Terminal app. If you don't have any hidden folders on your Mac, you can make one. Open Finder. This app is a blue, face-shaped icon on your...

Part 1 of 2:

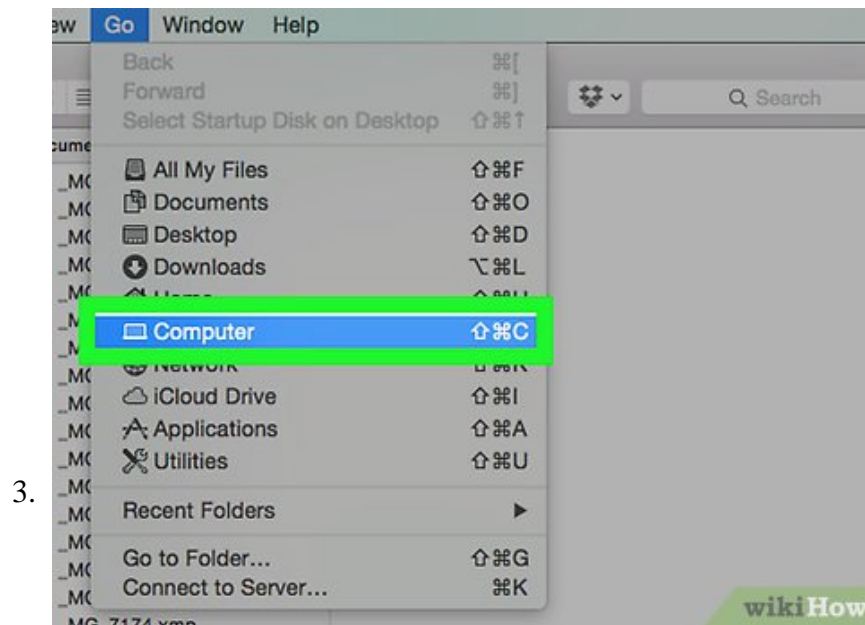
Showing Hidden Files



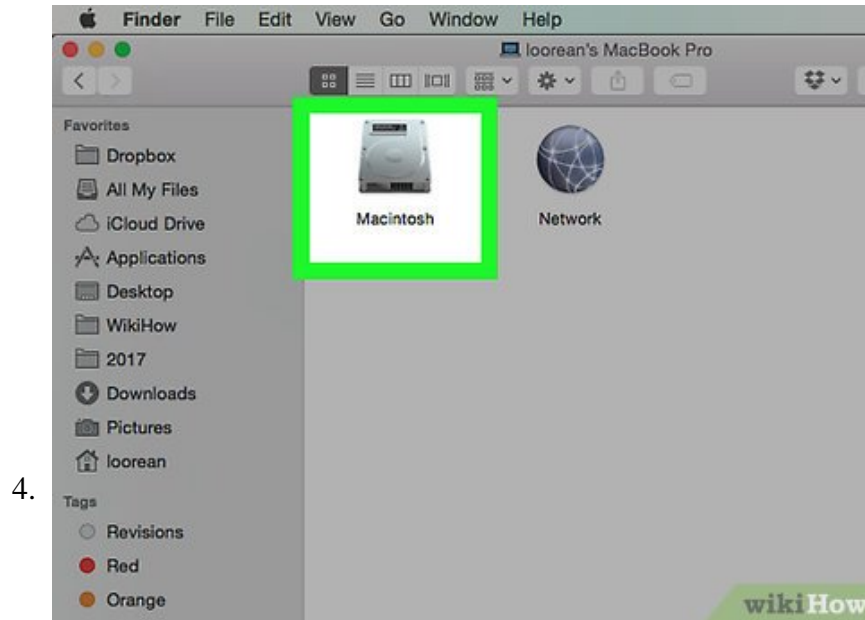
Open Finder. This app is a blue, face-shaped icon on your Mac's Dock.



Click **Go**. It's in the top-left row of menu items. Doing so invokes a drop-down menu.

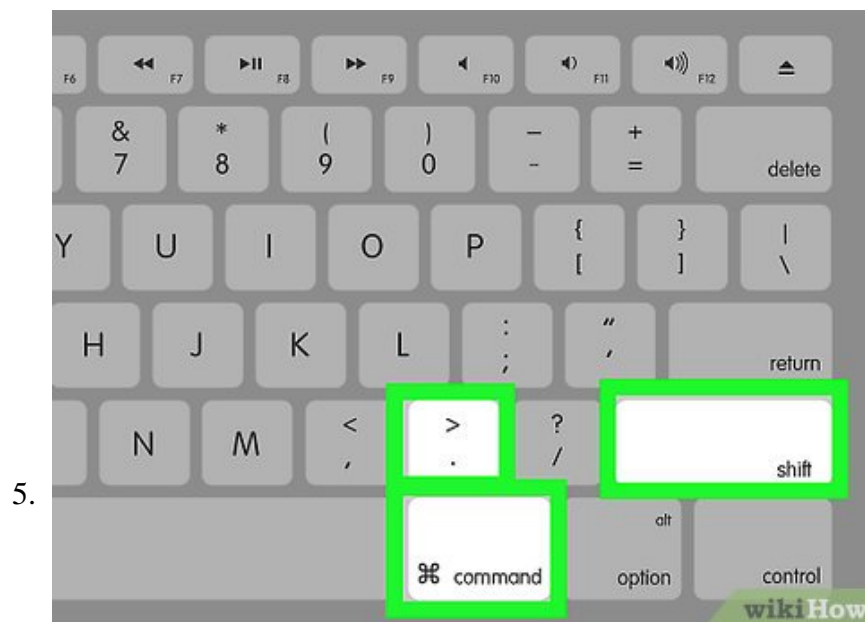


Click **Computer**. This option is about halfway down the **Go** drop-down menu.



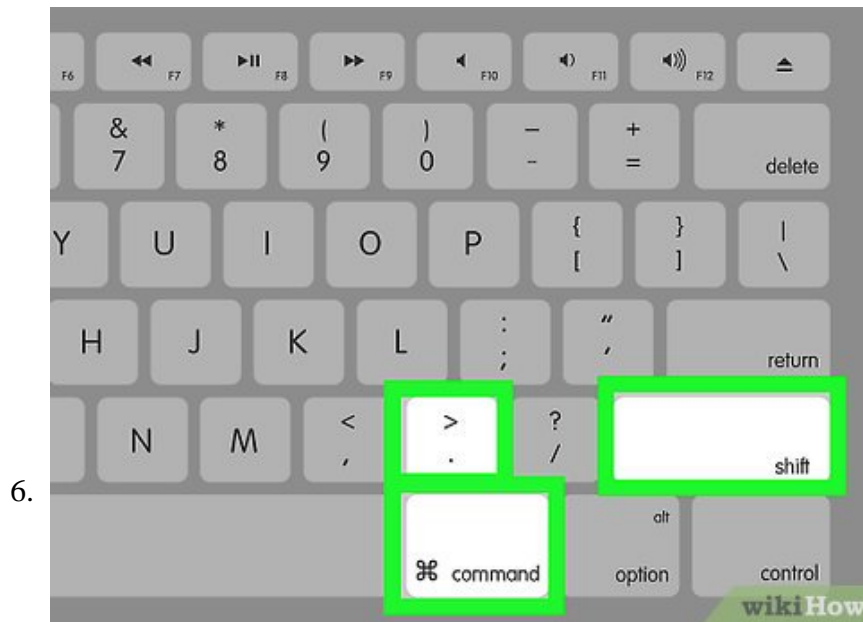
Double-click your hard drive's icon. It resembles a grey box.

1. On most Macs, the hard drive is entitled "Macintosh HD".



Press ? Shift +? Command + . . This key combination will display any hidden folders in your Mac's hard drive. Any hidden folders or files will appear as grayed-out.

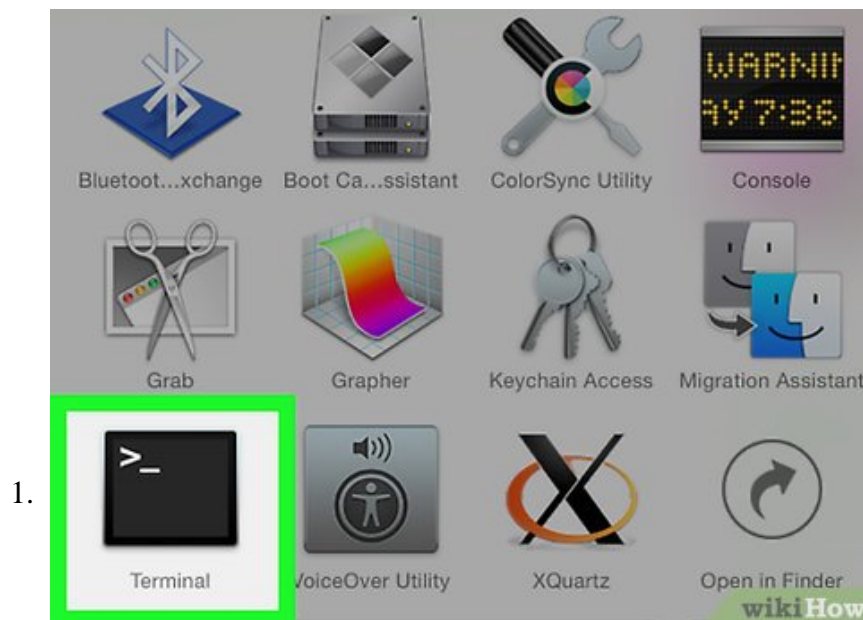
1. **This keyboard shortcut can be done from any Finder window.** The main Hard Drive folder usually contains hidden system files and folders so you should be able to see this better here when the hidden files are visible (grayed-out).



Press **Shift + Command + .** again. This will hide the hidden files again, making them invisible.

Part 2 of 2:

Making Hidden Files Visible



Open Terminal. Click Spotlight

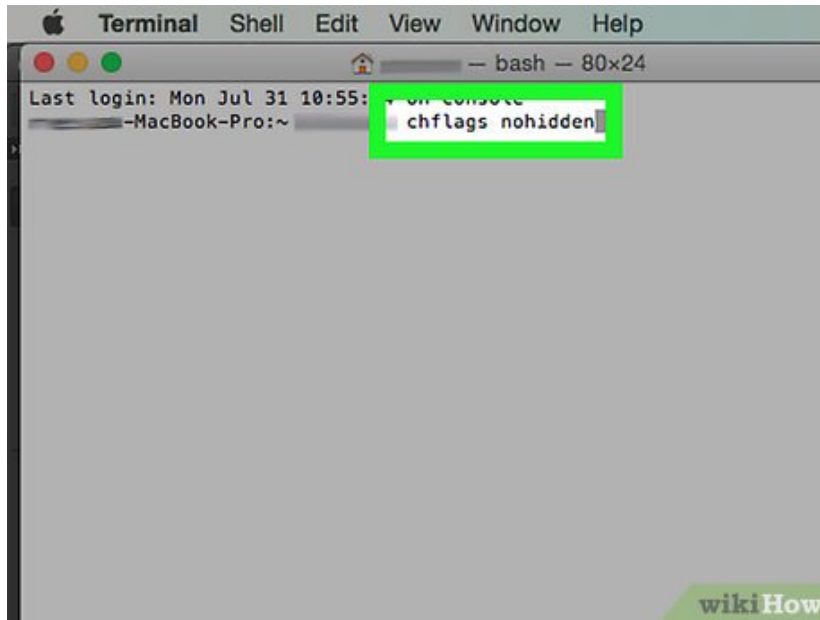


, type in `terminal` , and click Terminal



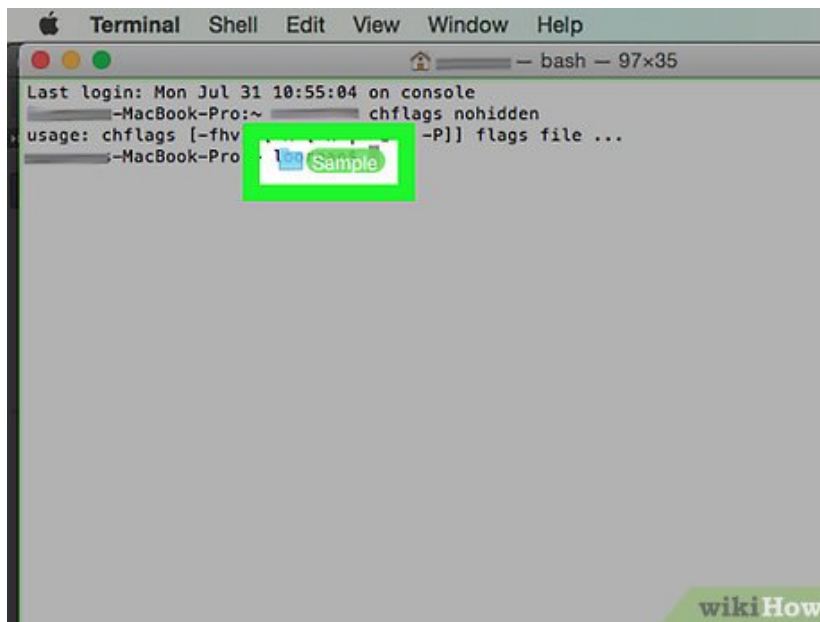
when it appears.

2.

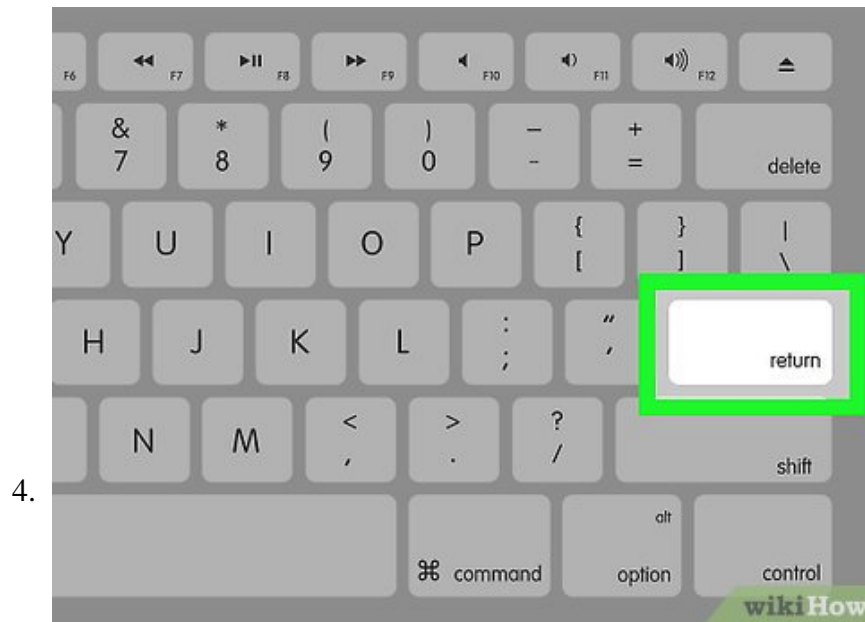


Type **chflags nohidden** into Terminal. Make sure you leave a space after nohidden.

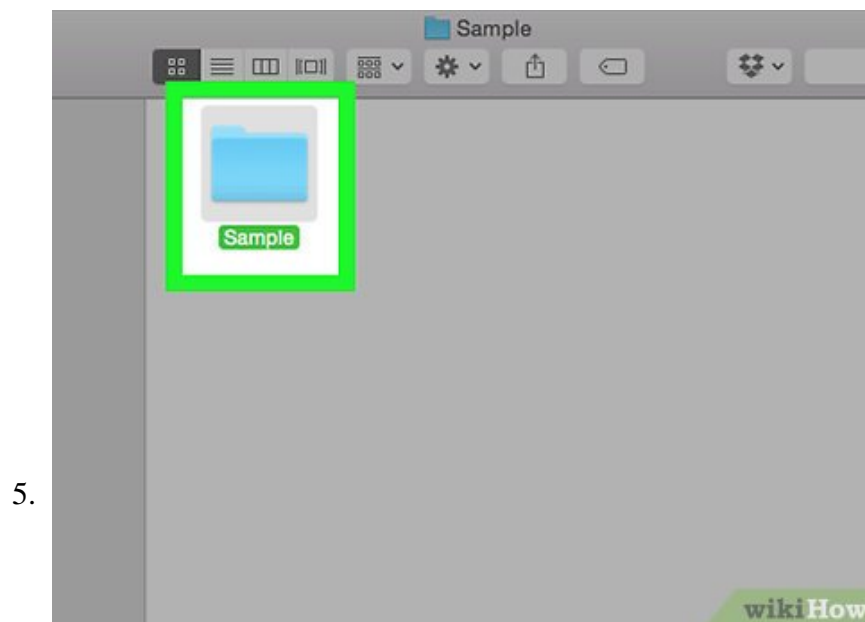
3.



Click and drag a hidden file or folder into Terminal. Dropping the item onto the Terminal window will place the item's pathway--which is essentially its address--directly after the "chflags nohidden" command.



Press **Return**. This will run the command, which removes the "hidden" status of your selected item.



Double-click the item. It should now open like a regular file or folder.

You finished reading the article "**How to Show Hidden Files and Folders on a Mac**" 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.