

# Use commands and some tips for Mac OS X

In this tutorial we will show you how to use some commands and tips for Mac OS X.

Mac OS X is built in a user-friendly way so anyone can use the computer regardless of their experience. However, delving underneath OS X's shimmering surface by launching the Terminal, we can unlock many hidden features, perform many advanced tasks, adjust and troubleshoot. Mac computer. In this tutorial we will show you some effective Terminal tips and commands.

**Note:** Before performing the command operation, we recommend that you backup your computer to avoid unnecessary risks.

Some tips only work for a specific operating system so in the article we have chosen to issue commands that can work with most operating systems like Leopard, Snow Leopard and Lion.

To open the Terminal window, go to **Applications> Utilities> Terminal** .

## Some useful Terminal commands on macOS

1. Show hidden files
2. Activate 2D Dock
3. Disable Dashboard
4. Display Library folder in OS X Lion
5. Hide desktop icons
6. Launch the application
7. End a process
8. Open the Finder window in the current directory
9. Change the default screenshot format
10. Download files from the Internet without a browser
11. Turn off Sleep mode on Mac
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15. Change the location to save the screenshot
16. Create the default name for the screenshot
17. Add distance between applications in Dock
18. View the entire download history and delete it
19. Turn off the Mac

## 1. Show hidden files

Although OS X doesn't really place too many important roles in hidden files and folders, there are still some files and folders hidden by default. This is very normal to avoid user deleting the wrong file and causing unnecessary problems, but if you want to show these hidden files, you just need to enter the following command:

```
defaults write com.apple.finder AppleShowAllFiles true
```

To cancel the command, replace **true** with **false** .

1. How to hide, display files and folders on macOS

## 2. Activate 2D Dock



If you've ever moved the Dock to the right or left of the screen (depending on the version of OS X you're using), you may see the 2D Dock displayed as above. If you want to enable 2D Dock at all locations, enter the following command in Terminal:

```
defaults write com.apple.dock no-glass -boolean YES
```

Now restart the Dock for the changes to take effect by typing

```
killall Dock
```

To bring Dock back to normal, replace '**YES**' in the above command with '**NO**' and restart Dock again with the killall command above.

## 3. Disable Dashboard

Certainly there will be many people who like Dashboard, but this is the culprit who consumes a lot of RAM resources. If you want to completely disable Dashboard to avoid this and avoid launching it accidentally, use the following command in Terminal and press Return:

```
defaults write com.apple.dashboard mcx-disabled -boolean YES
```

Restart the Dock for the changes to take effect.

```
killall Dock
```

To cancel the order and return to Dashboard, simply change 'YES' to 'NO' and restart the Dock with killall again.

## 4. Display Library folder in OS X Lion

OS X Lion hides the default Library folder and this makes troubleshooting such as clearing the cache very difficult. To display the Library folder permanently, enter the following command in Terminal:

```
chflags nohidden ~ / Library /
```

## 5. Hide desktop icons



If you prefer to hide all icons on the desktop via Terminal, you can use the following command:

```
defaults write com.apple.finder CreateDesktop -bool false
```

Then use killall command

```
killall Finder
```

If you want to bring everything back as before, copy and paste the following command:

```
defaults write com.apple.finder CreateDesktop -bool true
```

Then use **killall** command.

## 6. Launch the application

To launch applications from Terminal, follow the following form, replace Twitter with the application name you want to launch:

```
open -a Twitter
```

## 7. End a process

If you want to end a process or an application, use the command below, replace Twitter with the process you want to end.

```
killall Twitter
```

## 8. Open the Finder window in the current directory

To quickly open the Finder window in any folder, enter the following command in Terminal

```
open.
```

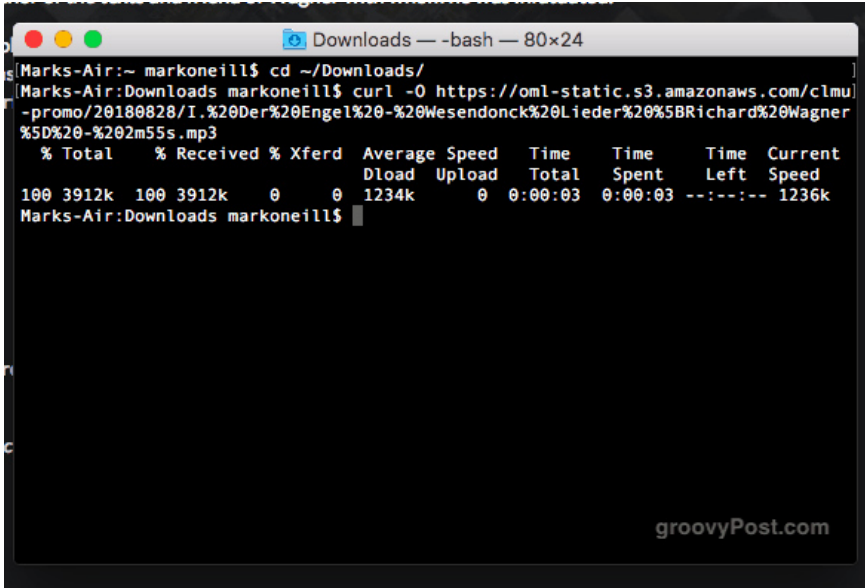
## 9. Change the default screenshot format

OS X's Screenshot utility is very useful but if you want to save the JPG file, use the following command:

```
defaults write com.apple.screencapture type jpg
```

(Note: You can also change jpg to png if you want).

## 10. Download files from the Internet without a browser

A screenshot of a macOS Terminal window titled "Downloads — -bash — 80x24". The terminal shows a user navigating to the Downloads directory and running a curl command to download a file from a URL. The output shows a progress bar and a table of download statistics. The file name is partially visible as "%5D%20-%202m55s.mp3". The download is complete, showing 100% received and a current speed of 1236k. The terminal prompt is "Marks-Air:Downloads markoneill\$".

```
marksoneill@Marks-Air:~$ cd ~/Downloads/
marksoneill@Marks-Air:Downloads$ curl -O https://oml-static.s3.amazonaws.com/clmu
-promo/20180828/I.%20Der%20Engel%20-%20Wesendonck%20Lieder%20%5BRichard%20Wagner
%5D%20-%202m55s.mp3
% Total % Received % Xferd Average Speed Time Time Time Current
Dload Upload Total Spent Left Speed
100 3912k 100 3912k 0 0 1234k 0 0:00:03 0:00:03 ---:-- 1236k
marksoneill@Marks-Air:Downloads$
```

If you need to download files from the Internet without opening the browser, you can download it via Terminal. Previously, Quantrimang showed you how to install software using Homebrew, allowing downloading software through the browser. But you can download it via Terminal if there is a direct download link. First, specify the directory to save the downloaded file (here select the Downloads folder).

```
cd ~ / Downloads /
```

Then to download the file, type:

```
curl -O [File path]
```

## 11. Turn off Sleep mode on Mac

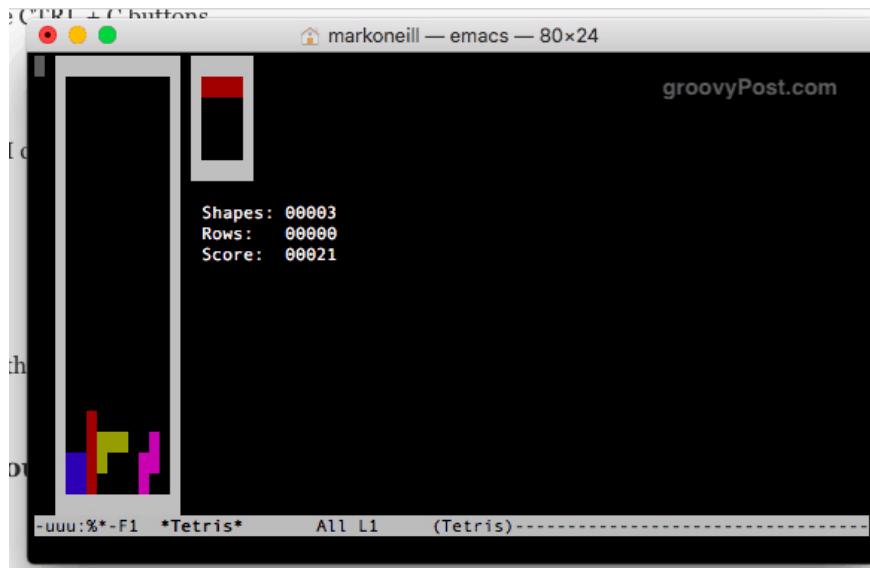
There are many different applications to disable the ability to "sleep" on Macs like Amphetamine, but if you don't like to install a lot of software on your computer, you can use the following Terminal command:

Caffeine

This command will prevent Mac from switching to Sleep mode. If you want to turn it back on, just press **Ctrl + C**.

1. How to set up a Mac doesn't fall into a "sleep" state

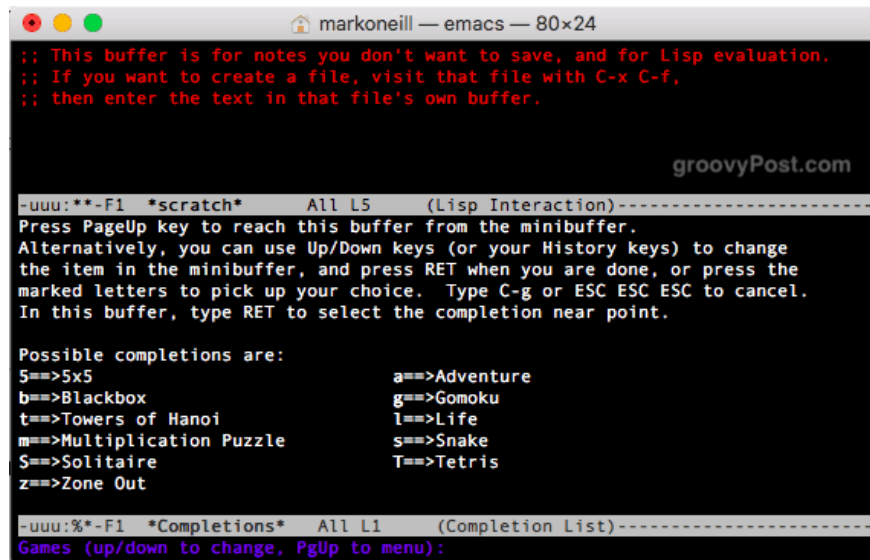
## 12. Play Tetris game hidden on Mac



If you like Tetris, you can play it on the Mac with the following command:

Emacs

Press the **Fn** and **F10** keys at the same time, then press the **t** and **g** buttons. You will see the screen below, select the game you want to play and start.



## 13. Turn the audio plugged into the power on the Mac just like the iPhone

If you like the sound of the iPhone, you can turn the audio plugged in to the same power as the iPhone with the following command:

```
defaults write com.apple.PowerChime ChimeOnAllHardware -bool true; open /System
```

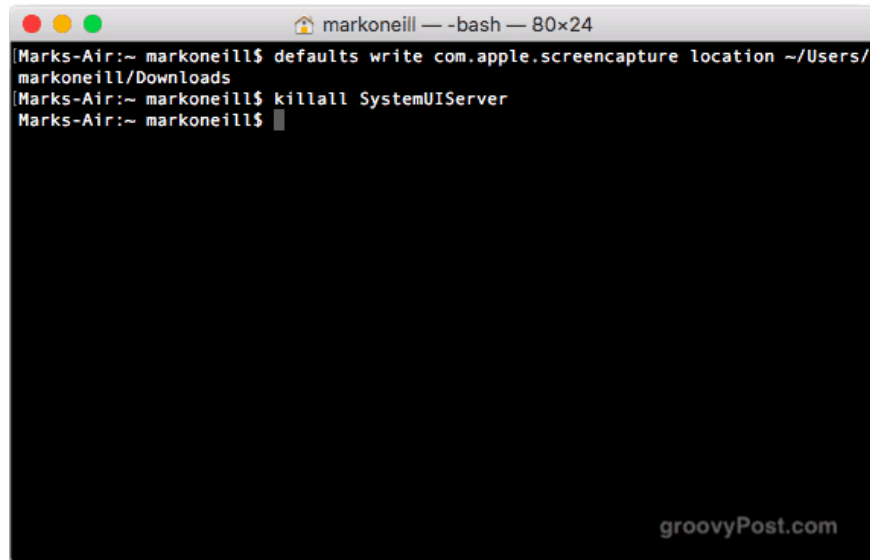
## 14. MacOS settings check for updates more frequently

For better computer security, you should update your Mac regularly, but most users don't pay attention to it and forget to download important patches and updates. In this case you can set up Mac to check for these updates more often.

To set up Mac to check for updates daily, type the following command:

```
defaults write com.apple.SoftwareUpdate ScheduleFrequency -int 1
```

## 15. Change the location to save the screenshot



```
markoneill — -bash — 80x24
Marks-Air:~ markoneill$ defaults write com.apple.screencapture location ~/Users/markoneill/Downloads
Marks-Air:~ markoneill$ killall SystemUIServer
Marks-Air:~ markoneill$
```

groovyPost.com

On a Mac, when taking screenshots, by default it will save these photos on the desktop. However, for those who need to capture multiple screens, their desktop becomes a mess. There is an easy way to change the location to save this default screenshot. You just need to type the following command, replace / **your** / **location** / **here** with the path to the folder you want to change.

```
defaults write com.apple.screencapture location ~ / your / location / here
```

Then type:

```
killall SystemUIServer
```

## 16. Create the default name for the screenshot



```
markoneill — -bash — 80x24
Marks-Air:~ markoneill$ defaults write com.apple.screencapture name "scr"
Marks-Air:~ markoneill$ killall SystemUIServer
Marks-Air:~ markoneill$
```

groovyPost.com

Another command you can use with Mac screenshots is to change its default name. Normally, Mac will name screenshots like **Screen Shot 2018-09-11 at 20.00.46.png** , but this name is difficult to find and inconvenient for users. You can replace it with a more recognizable name with the following command:

```
defaults write com.apple.screencapture name "New screenshot name"
```

Then type:

```
killall SystemUIServer
```

## **17. Add distance between applications in Dock**



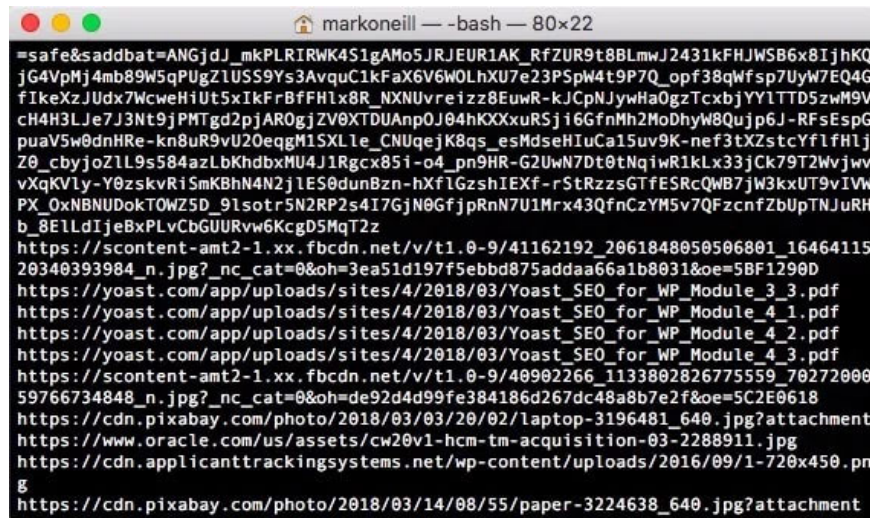
With this command, you can change the distance between applications in the Dock:

```
defaults write com.apple.dock persistent-apps -array-add '{"tile-type" = "space"
```

Then type:

```
killall Dock
```

## 18. View the entire download history and delete it



```
markoneill -- -bash -- 80x22
=safe&saddbat=ANGjdJ_mkPLRIRWK4S1gAmo5JRJEUR1AK_RfZUR9t8BLmwJ2431kFHJWSB6x8IjhKQ
jG4VpMj4mb89W5qPUGzL1USS9Ys3AvquC1kFaX6V6WOLhXU7e23PSPW4t9P7Q_opf38qWfsp7UyW7EQ4G
fIkeXzJUdx7WcweHiUt5xIkFrBfFHLx8R_NXNUvreizz8EuwR-kJcPnJywHa0gzTcxbjYY1TTD5zwM9V
cH4H3LJe7J3Nt9jPHTgd2pjAR0GjZV0XTDUAnp0J04hKXXuRSji6GfnMh2ModDhyW8Quj6J-RFsEspG
puaV5w0dnHRe-kn8uR9vU20eqgM15XLle_CNUqeJk8qs_esMdseHIuCa15uv9K-nef3tXZstcYflfHlj
Z0_cbyjoZ1L9s584azLbKhdbxMU4J1Rgcx85i-o4_pn9HR-G2UwN7Dt0tNqiW1kLx33jCk79T2Wvjwv
vXqKVly-Y0zskvRiSmKBhN4N2j1ES0dunBzn-hXfLGzshIEXf-rStRzszGTfESrcQWB7jW3kxUT9vIVW
PX_0xNBNUDokTOWZ5D_9lsotr5N2RP2s4I7GjN0GfjPnN7U1Mrx43QfnCzYM5v7QFzcnfZbUpTNJuRH
b_8E1LdIjeBxPLvCbGUURvw6KcgD5MqT2z
https://scontent-amt2-1.xx.fbcdn.net/v/t1.0-9/41162192_2061848050506801_16464115
20340393984_n.jpg?_nc_cat=0&oh=3ea51d197f5ebbd875addaa66a1b8031&oe=5BF1290D
https://yoast.com/app/uploads/sites/4/2018/03/Yoast_SEO_for_WP_Module_3_3.pdf
https://yoast.com/app/uploads/sites/4/2018/03/Yoast_SEO_for_WP_Module_4_1.pdf
https://yoast.com/app/uploads/sites/4/2018/03/Yoast_SEO_for_WP_Module_4_2.pdf
https://yoast.com/app/uploads/sites/4/2018/03/Yoast_SEO_for_WP_Module_4_3.pdf
https://scontent-amt2-1.xx.fbcdn.net/v/t1.0-9/40902266_1133802826775559_70272000
59766734848_n.jpg?_nc_cat=0&oh=de92d4d99fe384186d267dc48a8b7e2f&oe=5C2E0618
https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2018/03/03/20/02/laptop-3196481_640.jpg?attachment
https://www.oracle.com/us/assets/cw20v1-hcm-tm-acquisition-03-2288911.jpg
https://cdn.applicanttrackingsystems.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/1-720x450.png
https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2018/03/14/08/55/paper-3224638_640.jpg?attachment
```

The Mac stores your entire download history, to view this entire list, type:

```
sqlite3 ~ / Library / Preferences / com.apple.LaunchServices.QuarantineEventsV
```

To delete download history, enter the following command:

```
sqlite3 ~/Library/Preferences/com.apple.LaunchServices.QuarantineEventsV* 'delet
```

Now if you type the first command again, you will see this list blank, nothing.

## 19. Turn off the Mac

To turn off the Mac, enter the following command:

```
$ sudo shutdown -h now
```

To restart the Mac, type:

```
$ sudo shutdown -r now
```

I wish you all success!

See more:

1. 7 commands to manipulate the most basic files and folders everyone must know
2. 10 troubleshooting tips for Mac OS X
3. Instructions to enable hidden features for dock on Mac OS

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