

# ADB (Android Debug Bridge) Cheatsheet

A concise reference for ADB commands, covering device management, file transfer, shell interaction, and more, tailored for Android developers and enthusiasts.



### **Device Management**

#### Basic Device Commands

adb devices	Lists all connected Android devices. Shows serial number and state (device, offline, unauthorized).
adb devices -1	Lists connected devices with more details like transport ID and product/model information.
adb get- state	Prints the device's current state (device, offline, unauthorized, unknown).
adb get- serialno	Retrieves the serial number of the connected device.
adb wait- for-device	Blocks execution until a device is connected. Useful in scripts.
adb kill- server	Kills the ADB server process. The server will restart automatically when another ADB command is executed.
adb start- server	Starts the ADB server. Usually not required as ADB commands start the server if it's not running.

#### **Device Selection**

adb -s <serialnumber> <command/></serialnumber>	Specifies the device by serial number to execute the command on. Useful when multiple devices are connected.
	Example: (adb -s emulator-5554 shell getprop ro.product.model)
adb -e <command/>	Directs the command to the only connected emulator. Returns an error if more than one emulator is running.
adb -d <command/>	Directs the command to the only connected hardware device. Returns an error if more than one device is connected.

#### **Reboot Commands**

adb reboot	Reboots the Android device.
adb reboot bootloader	Reboots the device into the bootloader (fastboot) mode.
adb reboot recovery	Reboots the device into recovery mode.

# File Management

#### File Transfer

adb push <local> <remote></remote></local>	Copies a file or directory from your computer (local) to the Android device (remote).
	Example: adb push myfile.txt /sdcard/
adb pull <remote> <local></local></remote>	Copies a file or directory from the Android device (remote) to your computer (local).
	<b>Example:</b> adb pull /sdcard/myimage.jpg . (copies
	to current directory)

#### Shell File Operations

adb shell ls <pre></pre>		
adb shell mkdir <pre>cpath&gt;</pre>		
the device.  Example: adb shell mkdir /sdcard/new_folder  adb shell rm  Removes the file at the specified path on the device.  Example: adb shell rm /sdcard/temp.txt  adb shell rm -r  Removes the directory recursively at the specified path on the device.  Example: adb shell rm -r  /sdcard/temp_folder  adb shell mv  Aboves a file from source to destination path on the device.  Add shell mv  Aboves a file from source to destination path on the device.  Aboves a file from source to destination path on the device.		Example: (adb shell ls /sdcard/DCIM/Camera)
adb shell rm   Removes the file at the specified path on the device.  Example: adb shell rm /sdcard/temp.txt  adb shell rm -r   Removes the directory recursively at the specified path on the device.  Example: adb shell rm -r   /sdcard/temp_folder  adb shell mv   Moves a file from source to destination path on the device. <destination></destination>		, , ,
<pre>device.  Example: adb shell rm /sdcard/temp.txt  adb shell rm -r</pre>		Example: adb shell mkdir /sdcard/new_folder
adb shell rm -r <pre>Removes the directory recursively at the specified path on the device.  Example: adb shell rm -r /sdcard/temp_folder  adb shell mv <source/> <destination></destination></pre>		·
<pre>spath &gt; path on the device.  Example: adb shell rm -r /sdcard/temp_folder  adb shell mv</pre>		Example: adb shell rm /sdcard/temp.txt
/sdcard/temp_folder  adb shell mv Moves a file from source to destination path on the device. <destination></destination>		3 3 1
adb shell mv  Moves a file from source to destination path on the device.  destination		Example: adb shell rm -r
<source/> device. <destination></destination>		/sdcard/temp_folder
	<source/>	·
	<destination></destination>	Example: adb shell mv /sdcard/test.txt
/sdcard/backup/test.txt		/sdcard/backup/test.txt)

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### **Shell Commands**

### Basic Shell Interaction

adb shell <command/>	Executes a shell command on the Android device.  Example: adb shell getprop ro.product.model (gets the device model)
adb shell	Opens an interactive shell session on the Android device. Type exit to close the session.
<pre>adb emu <command/></pre>	Runs emulator console command.  Example: adb emu geo fix -80 30

# Package Management

<pre>adb install <path_to_apk></path_to_apk></pre>	Installs an Android application package (APK) from your computer to the device.  Example: adb install myapp.apk
adb install -r <path_to_apk></path_to_apk>	Reinstalls an existing application, keeping its data.  Example: adb install -r myapp.apk
adb uninstall <package_nam e&gt;</package_nam 	Uninstalls the application with the specified package name from the device.  Example: adb uninstall com.example.myapp
adb shell pm list packages	Lists all installed packages on the device.
adb shell pm clear <package_nam e&gt;</package_nam 	Clear user data of a package.  Example: (adb shell pm clear com.example.myapp)

### Screen and Media

adb shell screencap - p /sdcard/scr een.png	Takes a screenshot of the device screen and saves it as a PNG file on the device.  Then use adb pull /sdcard/screen.png to copy it to your computer.
adb shell screenrecor	Records a video of the device screen and saves it as an MP4 file on the device.
/sdcard/scr een.mp4	Press Ctrl+C to stop recording. Then use adb pull /sdcard/screen.mp4 to copy it to your computer.

# **Debugging & Logging**

# Logcat Commands

l e	
adb logcat	Starts streaming system log messages to your console.
adb logcat -	Clears the current log buffers.
adb logcat - v <format< td=""><td>Specifies the log message format (brief, process, tag, thread, raw, time, threadtime, long).  Example: adb logcat -v threadtime</td></format<>	Specifies the log message format (brief, process, tag, thread, raw, time, threadtime, long).  Example: adb logcat -v threadtime
adb logcat <tag>: <level></level></tag>	Filters log messages by tag and priority level ( V - Verbose, D - Debug, I - Info, W - Warning, E - Error, F - Fatal, S - Silent).  Example: adb logcat MyTag:D *:S (shows Debug messages from MyTag and suppresses all other tags)
adb logcat - f <filenam e=""></filenam>	Saves the log output to the specified file.  Example: adb logcat -f mylog.txt
adb logcat   grep <search_ term=""></search_>	Filters logcat output using grep for specific strings.  Example: adb logcat   grep "MyApp"

### **Debugging Applications**

adb jdwp	Lists the process IDs (PID) of all applications that are enabled for JDWP (Java Debug Wire Protocol) debugging.
adb forward tcp: <local_port< td=""><td>Sets up port forwarding for debugging a specific application process.</td></local_port<>	Sets up port forwarding for debugging a specific application process.
<pre>&gt; jdwp: <remote_pid></remote_pid></pre>	Example: adb forward tcp:8000 jdwp:1234 (forwards local port 8000 to process 1234)
adb shell am start -D -n <package>/<activity></activity></package>	Starts an application in debug mode, waiting for a debugger to attach.  Example: adb shell am start -D -n com.example.myapp/.MainActivi
	ty

#### ADB over Network

adb tcpip <port></port>	Restarts ADB in TCP/IP mode on the specified port (usually 5555).  Run on the device itself (via USB
	connection).
adb connect <device_i< td=""><td>Connects to the device over the network.</td></device_i<>	Connects to the device over the network.
p>:	Run on the computer after enabling add tcpip on the
<port></port>	device. Example: adb connect
	192.168.1.100:5555
adb disconnec	Disconnects from a network-connected device.
<pre>c <device i<="" pre=""></device></pre>	Example: adb disconnect
p>:	192.168.1.100:5555
<port></port>	

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