Fish Shell Cheatsheet

A comprehensive cheat sheet covering essential Fish shell commands, syntax, and configurations for improved productivity and customization.



Basics & Navigation

Shell Navigation

cd directory_ name	Change directory to directory_name .
cd	Move one directory up.
cd -	Return to the previous directory.
pwd	Print the current working directory.
ls	List files and directories in the current directory.
1s -1	List files with detailed information (permissions, size, etc.).
ls -a	List all files, including hidden files.

Basic Commands

echo 'text'	Prints the specified text to the terminal.
<pre>printf '%s\n' 'text'</pre>	Prints the specified text with a trailing newline.
read my_variable	Reads input from stdin and assigns it to <code>my_variable</code> .
clear	Clears the terminal screen.
history	Displays the command history.

Keybindings

Ctrl+A	Move cursor to the beginning of the line.
Ctrl+E	Move cursor to the end of the line.
Alt+Left	Jump to the previous word.
Alt+Righ	Jump to the next word.
Up/Down Arrows	Switch to the previous/next command in history.
Alt+Up/Do wn	Switch to the previous/next arguments.
Ctrl+U	Delete from cursor to the beginning of the line.
Ctrl+C	Cancel the current command.

Variables & Loops

Variable Management

set my_variable 'value'	Sets a variable named (my_variable) to 'value'.
set -g my_variable 'value'	Sets a global variable accessible in all scopes.
set -l my_variable 'value'	Sets a local variable, only accessible within the current scope.
seterase my_variable	Removes the variable my_variable.
echo \$my_variabl	Prints the value of my_variable.
echo \$my_variable [13]	Prints a slice of the variable (characters 1 to 3).

Loop Structures

for i in item1 item2 item3;; end	Iterates over a list of items.
for i in (seq 1 5);; end	Iterates over a sequence of numbers from 1 to 5.
while condition;; end	Executes a block of code as long as the condition is true.
break	Exits the current loop.
continue	Skips the current iteration and continues with the next.

Arithmetic Operations

math 1 + 2	Performs addition.
math 5 - 3	Performs subtraction.
math 4 * 6	Performs multiplication.
math 8 / 2	Performs division.
math 7 % 3	Calculates the modulo (remainder).
math 2 ^ 3	Performs exponentiation.
set counter (math \$counter + 1)	Increments a variable counter by 1.

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Conditionals & Strings

Conditional Statements

<pre>if condition;; end</pre>	Executes a block of code if the condition is true.
else	Executes a block of code if the previous 1f condition is false.
<pre>else if condition;; end</pre>	Chains another condition to check if the initial if is false.
test condition	Evaluates a condition; returns 0 if true, 1 if false.
and	Logical AND operator for combining conditions.
or	Logical OR operator for combining conditions.
not	Logical NOT operator to negate a condition.

String Manipulation

string length	Returns the length of the string 'text'.
string sub start 2 length 3 'example'	Extracts a substring of length 3 starting from index 2.
string matchregex 'pattern' 'string'	Matches a string against a regular expression; returns the match or nothing.
string replaceall 'old' 'new' 'string'	Replaces all occurrences of 'old' with 'new' in 'string'.
string join 'separator' item1 item2	Joins items together with the specified separator.
string split 'separator' 'string'	Splits a string into an array based on the separator.

String Matching Patterns

x?	Matches zero or one occurrences of $\overline{\mathbf{x}}$.
X*	Matches zero or more occurrences of $\overline{\mathbf{x}}$.
X +	Matches one or more occurrences of $\overline{\mathbf{x}}$.
x{n}	Matches exactly n occurrences of x.
x{n,m}	Matches between n and m occurrences of x.
[xy]	Matches either x or y.
[^xy	Matches any character that is not x or y .

Functions & Events

Function Definition

<pre>function my_function;; end</pre>	Defines a new function named <code>my_function</code> .
function my_function -a argument1 argument2;; end	Defines a function accepting specific arguments.
<pre>function my_function -d 'description';; end</pre>	Adds a description to the function.
functionserase my_function	Removes the function my_function.
return	Exits the function, optionally returning a value.
(\$argv)	Array containing the arguments passed to the function.

Event Handling

emit my_event	Emits an event named (my_event).
<pre>function hook_function on-event my_event;; end</pre>	Defines a hook function that runs when my_event is emitted.
function hook_function on-variable my_variable;; end	Defines a hook function that runs when my_variable is changed.
function hook_function on-signal SIGINT;; end	Defines a hook function that runs when the SIGINT signal is received (e.g., Ctrl+C).

Process Communication

> file	Redirects the output to a file, overwriting its contents.
>> file	Appends the output to a file.
command	Pipes the output to another command.
(comman	Command substitution; replaces the command with its output.
(comman d psub)	Process substitution; creates a temporary file with the output of the command.

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Abbreviations & Completions

Abbreviations

abbradd short_cmd 'long command'	Adds an abbreviation; typing short_cmd will execute long command.
abbrerase short_cmd	Removes the abbreviation (short_cmd).
abbr	Lists all defined abbreviations.
Example: abbradd gcm 'git commit -m'	Creates an abbreviation for git commit -m . Use: gcm 'Your commit message'

Command Completions

complete command cmd arguments arg1 arg2	Adds completions for the command cmd with specified arguments.
complete command cmd erase	Removes all completions for the command cmd.
complete command cmd no-files	Disables file completion for command cmd.
complete command cmd force-files	Forces file completion for command cmd.
complete command cmd condition condition	Adds completions based on a specified condition.
complete command cmd description 'text'	Adds a description for the completion.

Useful Built-in Functions

fish_seen_a rgument	Checks whether a specific argument has been used.
fish_seen_s ubcommand_fro m	Checks if a specific subcommand has been used.
fish_use_su	Checks if any subcommand is used.
fish_comple te_directorie s	Completes directories.
fish_comple te_suffix	Completes files with a specific suffix.
fish_comple te_users	Lists all users for completion.

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