

# **Introduction To The Command Line**

# Getting started with Terminal

The Command Line is a text-based interface that allows you to communicate with your computer to accomplish a wide range of tasks. You will use the skills you develop in this lesson when working with <a href="Twarc">Twarc</a>, a command line tool for collecting and analyzing Twitter data. It is important to have a handle on basic commands so that you can work with the 1 October Twitter Data Collection later on in this tutorial series. Get started by downloading the materials below!

**Difficulty level:** Beginner

**Optimized for:** Mac users. Windows users can view the tutorial <u>here</u>.

Prerequisite(s): None

Materials: Download 'walt\_whitman.zip' to your desktop

#### **Tutorial Key**

- Command Line commands will be displayed in this format
- Keep means you have come to the end of a set of instructions

#### Lesson objectives

- Use the command line to navigate your computer
- Create and move content around
- Make changes to existing files

#### **Key Terms**

- Terminal OS X Command Line
  - A text interface for your computer. Terminal receives commands and then passes those commands on to the computer's operating system to run.
- Command

- A specific order from a user to the computer's operating system to perform a service
- Graphical-User Interface (GUI)
  - A visual form of user interface that allows users to interact with a computer through icons and other visual indicators
- Filepath
  - o A unique address that specifies a location in a file system
- Directory
  - A location for storing files on your computer. A directory is the same thing as a folder; a folder is represented visually in a GUI.

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# Introduction

How do you create a new folder? Pick the option below that applies to you:

- a. Right-click on my desktop and click 'Create New Folder'
- b. Click on the tool button and then click 'New Folder'
- c. Will it into existence, I have the power within me
- d. I don't. I like my files to be free range.

If you selected C or D, chances are you are probably not having much success organizing your files. If you selected A or B, you are interacting with your system through a Graphical-User Interface (GUI). Before users relied on GUIs to move around their systems, the command-line interface was the primary way people would interact with their computers. While a GUI is a visual way for operating your computer, the Command Line is a text-based interface for doing the same tasks you perform when clicking, dragging, and dropping files. It has a range of capabilities that make it a powerful tool for those who need more precision in their work. In this tutorial, you will learn how to navigate your computer using the Command Line.

# **Getting started**

There are two main command-line interfaces that are discussed in this tutorial series. On OS X the shell is known as bash, or the 'Bourne-again shell'. In OS X, the shell is located by default in: Applications > Utilities > Terminal. Let's get started by opening terminal.



Read through these tips and tricks before moving on to the next section:

### Tips and tricks

- '\$' signals the shell prompt. You can tell when a process is complete when it returns to the shell prompt.
- Capitalization and spacing matters! Make sure to always double check your work.
- You can drag and drop folders into Terminal instead of typing out their filepath
- Using the up arrow on your keyboard will recall commands. Use this tip to waste less time writing out commands and lengthy filepaths.
- 0 moves your cursor to the start of the line
- \$ moves your cursor to the end of the line
- You can copy and paste by right clicking in Terminal

🎉 Awesome work! You're ready to start using Terminal. Scroll down to the next section. 🎉

# **Moving Around Using Terminal**

If you are feeling lost after opening Terminal, it is important to find out where you are in your filesystem. Go ahead and enter the following command to **print the working (your current) directory**:

pwd

```
Last login: Sun Jan 6 20:37:02 on ttys001
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$ []
```

Nice job! Now let's see which directories and files are available in your location by entering the **list files** command:



```
# mirandabarrie — -bash — 80×24

Last login: Sun Jan 6 20:37:02 on ttys001

Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$ pwd

/Users/mirandabarrie

Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$

Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$

Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$
```

Let's change directories. Navigate to your desktop by entering the **change directory** command:

### cd Desktop

```
mirandabarrie — -bash — 80×24
Last login: Sun Jan 6 20:37:02 on ttys001
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$ pwd
/Users/mirandabarrie
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$ ls
Applications
                       Library
                                               Zotero
Creative Cloud Files
                       Movies
                                               git
Desktop
                                               iCloud Drive (Archive)
                       Music
                                               tracery
Documents
                       Pictures
                                               twarc.log
Downloads
                       Public
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$
```

If you haven't already, go ahead and <u>click here to download the zip file</u> we will be working within this tutorial <u>to your Desktop</u>. After you've downloaded the file, let's create a directory that we can store the file in by entering the **make directory** command:

### mkdir walt\_whitman

```
Desktop — -bash — 80×24
Last login: Sun Jan 6 20:37:02 on ttys001
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$ pwd
/Users/mirandabarrie
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$ ls
Applications Library
Creative Cloud Files Movies
Desktop Music
                                                   Zotero
                                                   git
                                                   iCloud Drive (Archive)
Documents
                        Pictures
                                                  tracery
                        Public
Downloads
                                                  twarc.log
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$ cd Desktop
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ 🧗
```

We're going to move the 'walt\_whitman' zip file you downloaded from your Desktop into your 'walt\_whitman' directory by using a new command, **move**:

## mv walt\_whitman.zip walt\_whitman

Note: If you're having trouble with this step, double check to make sure you moved the 'walt\_whitman.zip' file from your to your downloads folder to your Desktop.

```
🔳 Desktop — -bash — 80×24
Last login: Fri Jan 25 11:40:24 on ttys001
[u-10-82-0-107:~ mirandabarrie$ pwd
/Users/mirandabarrie
[u-10-82-0-107:~ mirandabarrie$ ls
Applications
                        Movies
                                                iCloud Drive (Archive)
Creative Cloud Files
                        Music
                                                tracery
Desktop
                        Pictures
                                                twarc.log
                                                walt_whitman
Documents
                        Public
Downloads
                        Zotero
Library
                        git
[u-10-82-0-107:~ mirandabarrie$ cd Desktop
[u-10-82-0-107:Desktop mirandabarrie$ mkdir walt_whitman
u-10-82-0-107:Desktop mirandabarrie$ ∭
```

Navigate to your new directory using the **change directory** command:

#### cd walt\_whitman

```
🛅 Desktop — -bash — 80×24
Last login: Sun Jan 6 20:37:02 on ttys001
[Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$ pwd
/Users/mirandabarrie
[Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$ ls
Applications
                          Library
                                                    Zotero
Creative Cloud Files Movies
                                                    git
Desktop
                                                    iCloud Drive (Archive)
                          Music
Documents
                          Pictures
                                                    tracery
Downloads
                          Public
                                                    twarc.log
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$ cd Desktop
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ mkdir walt_whitman
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ mv walt_whitman.zip walt_whitman Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ ∭
```

# **Manipulating Files Using Terminal**

Now that you know how to find your location in a filesystem, we're going to edit and move individual files around. We're going to start with the 'walt\_whitman' zip file on your Desktop.

Double check to make sure that you are still in your 'walt\_whitman' directory using the **print** working directory command:

pwd

```
walt_whitman — -bash — 80×24
Last login: Sun Jan 6 20:37:02 on ttys001
[Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$ pwd
/Users/mirandabarrie
[Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$ ls
Applications
                        Library
                                                Zotero
Creative Cloud Files
                        Movies
                                                iCloud Drive (Archive)
Desktop
                        Music
Documents
                        Pictures
                                                tracery
Downloads
                        Public
                                                twarc.log
|Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$ cd Desktop
[Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ mkdir walt_whitman
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ mv walt_whitman.zip walt_whitman
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ cd walt_whitman
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ 🎇
```

To get started, we need to unzip the file. Enter the **unzip** command to do so:

```
unzip walt_whitman.zip
```

```
walt whitman — -bash — 80×24
Last login: Sun Jan 6 20:37:02 on ttys001
[Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$ pwd
/Users/mirandabarrie
[Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$ ls
Applications
                        Library
                                                 Zotero
Creative Cloud Files
                        Movies
                                                 git
Desktop
                        Music
                                                 iCloud Drive (Archive)
Documents
                        Pictures
                                                 tracery
Downloads
                        Public
                                                 twarc.log
[Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$ cd Desktop
[Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ mkdir walt_whitman
[Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ mv walt_whitman.zip walt_whitman
[Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ cd walt whitman
[Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ pwd
/Users/mirandabarrie/Desktop/walt_whitman
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$
```

Let's see what's inside. Use the **list files** command:

### 1s

```
malt_whitman — -bash — 80×24
Creative Cloud Files
                                                   git
                         Movies
                                                   iCloud Drive (Archive)
Desktop
                         Music
Documents
                         Pictures
                                                   tracery
Downloads
                         Public
                                                   twarc.log
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$ cd Desktop
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ mkdir walt_whitman
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ mv walt_whitman.zip walt_whitman
[Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ cd walt_whitman
[Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ pwd
/Users/mirandabarrie/Desktop/walt_whitman
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ unzip walt_whitman.zip
Archive: walt_whitman.zip
  inflating: 1_Poem.txt
   creating: __MACOSX/
  inflating: __MACOSX/._1_Poem.txt
  inflating: 4_Poem.txt
  inflating: __MACOSX/._4_Poem.txt
  inflating: readme.txt
  inflating: __MACOSX/._readme.txt
inflating: 2_Poem.txt
  inflating: __MACOSX/._2_Poem.txt
inflating: 3_Poem.txt
  inflating: __MACOSX/._3_Poem.txt
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$
```

What you should see:

```
1_Poems.txt 2_Poems.txt 3_Poems.txt 4_Poems.txt readme.txt
walt_whitman.zip
```

What a treat! You've unzipped four poems and a README plain text file. Let's find out how many lines and words are in the file '1\_Poem.txt' by using the **word count** command:

## wc -l -w 1 Poem.txt

```
m walt_whitman — -bash — 80×24
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:~ mirandabarrie$ cd Desktop
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ mkdir walt_whitman
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ mv walt_whitman.zip walt_whitman
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ cd walt_whitman
[Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ pwd
/Users/mirandabarrie/Desktop/walt_whitman
[Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ unzip walt_whitman.zip
Archive: walt_whitman.zip
  inflating: 1_Poem.txt
   creating: __MACOSX/
  inflating: __MACOSX/._1_Poem.txt
inflating: 4_Poem.txt
  inflating: __MACOSX/._4_Poem.txt
  inflating: readme.txt
  inflating: __MACOSX/._readme.txt
inflating: 2_Poem.txt
  inflating: __MACOSX/._2_Poem.txt
inflating: 3_Poem.txt
  inflating: __MACOSX/._3_Poem.txt
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ ls
                          4_Poem.txt
1 Poem.txt
                                                   walt whitman.zip
                          __MACOSX
2 Poem.txt
3_Poem.txt
                          readme.txt
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$
```

There are 397 lines and 2,451 words in the first poem.

Let's find out which poem it is! Start by using the **tail** command, which pulls up the last 10 lines of a text:

#### tail 1 Poem.txt

```
📰 walt_whitman — -bash — 80×24
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ mv walt_whitman.zip walt_whitman
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ cd walt_whitman
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ pwd
/Users/mirandabarrie/Desktop/walt_whitman
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ unzip walt_whitman.zip
Archive: walt_whitman.zip
  inflating: 1_Poem.txt
   creating: __MACOSX/
  inflating: __MACOSX/._1_Poem.txt
  inflating: 4_Poem.txt
  inflating: __MACOSX/._4_Poem.txt
  inflating: readme.txt
  inflating: __MACOSX/._readme.txt
  inflating: 2_Poem.txt
  inflating: __MACOSX/._2_Poem.txt
  inflating: 3_Poem.txt
  inflating: __MACOSX/._3_Poem.txt
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ ls
1_Poem.txt
                        4_Poem.txt
                                                walt_whitman.zip
                        __MACOSX
2_Poem.txt
3_Poem.txt
                        readme.txt
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ wc -l -w 1_Poem.txt
            2451 1_Poem.txt
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ ▮
```

What you should see:

```
of woe,
```

With the holders holding my hand nearing the call of the bird, Comrades mine and I in the midst, and their memory ever to keep, for the dead I loved so well,

For the sweetest, wisest soul of all my days and lands—and this for his dear sake,

Lilac and star and bird twined with the chant of my soul, There in the fragrant pines and the cedars dusk and dim.

https://whitmanarchive.org/published/LG/1891/clusters/192

So that didn't give us the title, let's try and see if using the **head** command to get the first 10 lines of a text will help:

head 1\_Poem.txt

```
malt_whitman — -bash — 80×24
  inflating: readme.txt
  inflating: __MACOSX/._readme.txt
  inflating: 2_Poem.txt
  inflating: __MACOSX/._2_Poem.txt
  inflating: 3_Poem.txt
  inflating: __MACOSX/._3_Poem.txt
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ ls
                        4_Poem.txt
1_Poem.txt
                                               walt_whitman.zip
2_Poem.txt
                         _MACOSX
3_Poem.txt
                        readme.txt
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ wc -l -w 1_Poem.txt
     397 2451 1_Poem.txt
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ tail 1_Poem.txt
of woe,
With the holders holding my hand nearing the call of the bird,
Comrades mine and I in the midst, and their memory ever to
keep, for the dead I loved so well,
For the sweetest, wisest soul of all my days and lands-and this
for his dear sake,
Lilac and star and bird twined with the chant of my soul,
There in the fragrant pines and the cedars dusk and dim.
https://whitmanarchive.org/published/LG/1891/clusters/192Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:wa
lt_whitman mirandabarrie$ 🎚
```

What you should see:

WHEN LILACS LAST IN THE DOORYARD BLOOM'D.

1

WHEN lilacs last in the dooryard bloom'd,

And the great star early droop'd in the western sky in the night,

I mourn'd, and yet shall mourn with ever-returning spring.

Ever-returning spring, trinity sure to me you bring, Lilac blooming perennial and drooping star in the west,

Looks like we tracked down the title of the poem. Let's rename the file to match the poem's title. You can do this using the **move** command you learned earlier:

mv 1 Poem.txt when lilacs last.txt

```
walt whitman — -bash — 80×24
     397
             2451 1_Poem.txt
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ tail 1_Poem.txt
With the holders holding my hand nearing the call of the bird,
Comrades mine and I in the midst, and their memory ever to keep, for the dead I loved so well,
For the sweetest, wisest soul of all my days and lands-and this
for his dear sake,
Lilac and star and bird twined with the chant of my soul,
There in the fragrant pines and the cedars dusk and dim.
https://whitmanarchive.org/published/LG/1891/clusters/192Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:wa
lt_whitman mirandabarrie$ head 1_Poem.txt
WHEN LILACS LAST IN THE DOORYARD BLOOM'D.
1
WHEN lilacs last in the dooryard bloom'd,
And the great star early droop'd in the western sky in the night,
I mourn'd, and yet shall mourn with ever-returning spring.
Ever-returning spring, trinity sure to me you bring,
Lilac blooming perennial and drooping star in the west,
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$
```

Let's check out the 'readme.txt' file to see if it tells us about any of the other poems. You can open the file by using the **cat** command:

#### cat readme.txt

Note: The cat command will read a file, but it can also combine files

```
walt_whitman — -bash — 80×24
of woe,
With the holders holding my hand nearing the call of the bird,
Comrades mine and I in the midst, and their memory ever to keep, for the dead I loved so well,
For the sweetest, wisest soul of all my days and lands-and this
for his dear sake,
Lilac and star and bird twined with the chant of my soul,
There in the fragrant pines and the cedars dusk and dim.
https://whitmanarchive.org/published/LG/1891/clusters/192Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:wa
lt_whitman mirandabarrie$ head 1_Poem.txt
WHEN LILACS LAST IN THE DOORYARD BLOOM'D.
1
WHEN lilacs last in the dooryard bloom'd,
And the great star early droop'd in the western sky in the night,
I mourn'd, and yet shall mourn with ever-returning spring.
Ever-returning spring, trinity sure to me you bring, Lilac blooming perennial and drooping star in the west,
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ mv 1_Poem.txt when_lilacs_last.
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ 🌃
```

Looking at the README file we see that the other three poems are part of Walt Whitman's 'Memories of President Lincoln'. If you want to read the other poems, you know how to open them using the cat command.

Before we exit Terminal, let's get rid of the 'walt\_whitman.zip' file since we don't need it anymore. Do this by entering the **remove** command:

#### rm walt\_whitman.zip

```
walt_whitman — -bash — 80×24
Ever-returning spring, trinity sure to me you bring,
Lilac blooming perennial and drooping star in the west,
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ mv 1_Poem.txt when_lilacs_last.]
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ cat readme.txt
1/6/2019
Dataset created by:
Miranda Barrie
Social Media Data Curation Specialist
University of Nevada, Las Vegas University Libraries
miranda.barrie@unlv.edu
This dataset consists of the four poems published in Walt Whitman's 'Leaves of G
rass' (1881-1882). The poems are grouped under the title 'Memories of President
Lincoln'.
All poems are from the Walt Whitman Archive.
https://whitmanarchive.org/published/LG/1891/clusters/192Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:wa
lt_whitman mirandabarrie$ 🛭
```

Since we're all done in this directory, navigate up one directory to your Desktop by entering the **change directory** command:

cd ..

```
walt whitman — -bash — 80×24
Ever-returning spring, trinity sure to me you bring,
Lilac blooming perennial and drooping star in the west,
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ mv 1_Poem.txt when_lilacs_last.
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ cat readme.txt
1/6/2019
Dataset created by:
Miranda Barrie
Social Media Data Curation Specialist
University of Nevada, Las Vegas University Libraries
miranda.barrie@unlv.edu
This dataset consists of the four poems published in Walt Whitman's 'Leaves of G
rass' (1881-1882). The poems are grouped under the title 'Memories of President
Lincoln'.
All poems are from the Walt Whitman Archive.
URL:
https://whitmanarchive.org/published/LG/1891/clusters/192Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:wa
lt_whitman mirandabarrie$ rm walt_whitman.zip
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$
```

Home sweet Desktop. **List the files** one last time to make sure everything is in the right place.

ls

```
■ Desktop — -bash — 80×24
Lilac blooming perennial and drooping star in the west,
[Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ mv 1_Poem.txt when_lilacs_last.]
txt
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ cat readme.txt
1/6/2019
Dataset created by:
Miranda Barrie
Social Media Data Curation Specialist
University of Nevada, Las Vegas University Libraries
miranda.barrie@unlv.edu
This dataset consists of the four poems published in Walt Whitman's 'Leaves of G
rass' (1881-1882). The poems are grouped under the title 'Memories of President
Lincoln'.
All poems are from the Walt Whitman Archive.
URL:
[https://whitmanarchive.org/published/LG/1891/clusters/192Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:wa]
lt_whitman mirandabarrie$ rm walt_whitman.zip
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ cd ..
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$
```

We're good to go! Go ahead and leave Terminal by entering the **exit** command:

## exit

```
Desktop — -bash — 80×24
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ cat readme.txt
1/6/2019
Dataset created by:
Miranda Barrie
Social Media Data Curation Specialist
University of Nevada, Las Vegas University Libraries
miranda.barrie@unlv.edu
This dataset consists of the four poems published in Walt Whitman's 'Leaves of G
rass' (1881-1882). The poems are grouped under the title 'Memories of President
Lincoln'.
All poems are from the Walt Whitman Archive.
URL:
https://whitmanarchive.org/published/LG/1891/clusters/192Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:wal
lt_whitman mirandabarrie$ rm walt_whitman.zip
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:walt_whitman mirandabarrie$ cd ..
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$ ls
User Desktop
                                ~$gital avengers.docx
walt_whitman
                                ~$tternsOfHateCrimeEdit.docx
Mirandas-MacBook-Pro:Desktop mirandabarrie$
```

🎉 Fantastic work! You've completed the tutorial. 🎉

# **Review**

Reference the table below to review the material we covered in this tutorial.

Command:	Stands for:	Does what?
pwd	Print working directory	Lets you know where you are in your file system
ls	List files	Lists the files in your current directory
cd	Change directory	Changes the current directory
cd	Navigate up	Navigate up one directory from the current

	one directory	directory
mkdir	Make directory	Creates a directory
mv	Move	Moves a file, can also be used to rename a file
rm	Remove	Deletes a file
head	Head	Shows the first ten lines of a file
tail	Tail	Shows the last ten lines of a file
cat	Concatenate	Will read a file; can also combine files
exit	Exit	Exit Terminal