Windows Command Prompt Cheat Sheet

13 built-in commands · Windows 10 & 11 · open: Windows key → type cmd → Enter

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FIND FILES

`where /r C:\ report.pdf`	Searches every folder on C: for that file and prints the full path.
`where /r %USERPROFILE% report*.pdf`	Faster: only your own folders. * matches any characters.
`dir /s /b *.jpg *.png`	Lists every matching file with its full path. /s = subfolders, /b = paths only.
`forfiles /s /m *.* /c "cmd /c if @fsize GTR 104857600 echo @path"`	Finds files bigger than 100 MB (104,857,600 bytes) - great for freeing up space.
`findstr /s /i /n "invoice" *.txt`	Searches INSIDE files for text. /i ignores case, /n shows line numbers.

SEE YOUR FOLDERS

`tree /f`	Draws every folder and file as a tree (the one that looks like The Matrix).
`tree /f > tree.txt`	Saves the whole tree to a text file you can open, search or send.
`tree /f | findstr /i "\.txt$"`	Shows only files ending in .txt. Swap .txt for .docx, .pdf, .log...

YOUR PC AND NETWORK

`tasklist`	Every running program, its process ID (PID) and memory use.
`ipconfig`	Your PC's IP address, and your router's (Default Gateway).
`ipconfig /flushdns`	Clears saved website lookups. Try it when one site won't load but works on your phone.
`systeminfo`	Windows version, PC model, CPU and RAM. Takes a few seconds.
`systeminfo | findstr /B /C:"OS Name" /C:"OS Version"`	Just the Windows name and version.

HANDY TRICKS

Open it: Press the Windows key, type **cmd**, press Enter.

Repeat a command: Press the **Up arrow** to bring back what you last typed.

Clear the screen: Type **cls** and press Enter.

Stop a command: Ctrl + C cancels anything that is taking too long.

Less typing: Press **Tab** to finish a file or folder name for you.

Save any output: Add **> results.txt** to the end of a command to save what it prints.