

The magic window

Module 03 · The Command Line · Chapter 01

What you will learn

- ☐ What the command line actually is
- ☐ How to open one on any computer
- ☐ Your first commands: date, whoami, echo

Your exercise

TRY IT YOURSELF · ABOUT 10 MINUTES

Open a terminal and run all four commands above. Then try `cal` (a calendar appears), and `echo $SHELL` on Mac/Linux or `echo $env:SHELL` guess-free on Windows, if it errors, perfect: read the error aloud to yourself. Errors are not scolding; they're information. That habit starts today.

My notes

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The terminal = typing instructions directly instead of clicking translated ones.
- Fast, precise, and the native habitat of every tool in this course.
- Commands follow the pattern: command + arguments.
- Errors are answers, not insults, read them.

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