

Django Cheat Sheet

Useful Django terminal commands

We recommend **you don't use** these commands before you have been taught about them in the lesson content.

Getting started commands

Terminal Command	Description	Example
pip3 install <package_name><optional_version_nu mber></optional_version_nu </package_name>	Installs packages with an optional version	pip3 install Django~=4.2.1
pip3 freezelocal > requirements.txt	Creates/updates the requirements.txt file	pip3 freezelocal > requirements.txt
django-admin startproject <proj_name></proj_name>	Starts a django project, don't forget the full stop [.] to start the project in the current directory	django-admin startproject my_project .
python3 manage.py startapp <app_name></app_name>	Creates a new Django app in the Django project	python3 manage.py startapp blog

Migration and database commands

Terminal Command	Description	Example
python3 manage.py makemigrations	Create migrations files for any new or updated models across the entire project	python3 manage.py makemigrations
python3 manage.py makemigrations <app_name></app_name>	Create migrations files for any new or updated models within the specified app	python3 manage.py makemigrations blog
python3 manage.py migrate	Migrate your database with any new migrations across the entire project	python3 manage.py migrate
python3 manage.py migrate <app_name></app_name>	Migrate your database with any new migrations within the specified app	python3 manage.py migrate blog
python3 manage.py migrate <app_name> zero</app_name>	Reverts all migrations for a specified app to the initial state, effectively undoing them.	python3 manage.py migrate blog zero
python3 manage.py makemigrations dry-run	Migration preview feature that allows you to see potential model changes without creating actual migration files, enabling you to review changes before committing.	python3 manage.py makemigrations dry-run
python3 manage.py makemigrations check	New: Checks if the current model states match the database migrations without actually making new migrations.	python3 manage.py makemigrations check
check is for ensuring all necessary migrations have been made (and is non-interactive), whiledry-run is for previewing what migrations would be made without actually making them.		

General commands

Terminal Command	Description	Example
python3 manage.py runserver	Run your django app in the browser	python3 manage.py runserver
python3 manage.py createsuperuser	Creates an admin user for accessing the Django Admin site.	python3 manage.py createsuperuser
python3 manage.py collectstatic	Collects all static files from each of your applications into a single location that can easily be served in production. Only need to use this when DEBUG is set to False as Heroku will automatically collectstatic.	python3 manage.py collectstatic
python3 manage.py loaddata <fixture_name></fixture_name>	Loads data from a fixture into the database. This is particularly useful for setting up a database with predefined data.	python3 manage.py loaddata initial_data
python3 -V	Displays your current Python version, for example, if you need it to set up the Heroku Python version	python3 -V
pip3 show <package_name></package_name>	Gives information on the package including its location in your file structure	pip show django-allauth
cp -r <from>* <to></to></from>	Copies files from one location to another, for example when duplicating package templates so you can personalise them.	cp -r /home/cistudent/.local/lib/python3.9/site -packages/allauth/templates/* ./templates/

Testing commands

Terminal Command	Description	Example
python3 manage.py test	Run all unit tests in files that start with test_ across the entire project	python3 manage.py test
python3 manage.py test <app_name></app_name>	Run all unit tests in files that start with test_ inside the app specified	python3 manage.py test blog
python3 manage.py test <app_name>.<file_name></file_name></app_name>	Run all unit tests in a specific test file inside the app specified	python3 manage.py test about.test_forms
python3 manage.py test <app_name>.<file_name>.<class_name></class_name></file_name></app_name>	Run all unit tests in a specific class within the location specified.	python3 manage.py test about.test_forms.TestCollaborateForm
python3 manage.py test <app_name>.<file_name>.<class_name>. <test_name></test_name></class_name></file_name></app_name>	Run a single unit test within the location specified.	python3 manage.py test about.test_forms.TestCollaborateForm.t est_form_is_valid

Other useful commands

Terminal Command	Description	Example
python3 manage.py dumpdata <app_name> > <filename>.json</filename></app_name>	New: Creates a fixture (in JSON format) from the current database. It can be used for backup purposes or to populate another database with the same data.	python3 manage.py dumpdata blog > blog_fixtures.json
python3 manage.py flush	New: The flush command is different from migrate zero. When you run python manage.py flush, it doesn't undo migrations; instead, it removes all data from the database and resets primary key sequences for all models.	python3 manage.py flush