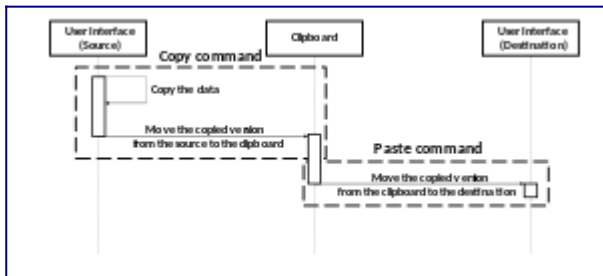


Copy and paste

"Copy and paste" and "Copy & Paste" redirect here. For the album, see [Hurricane Venus](#). For other uses, see [copy and paste \(disambiguation\)](#).



Sequence diagram of the copy-paste operation

The term "copy-and-paste" refers to the popular, simple method of reproducing [text](#) or other [data](#) from a source to a destination. It differs from **cut and paste** in that the original source text or data does not get deleted or removed. The popularity of this method stems from its simplicity and the ease with which users can move data between various applications visually – without resorting to [permanent storage](#).

Once one has copied data into the [clipboard](#), one may paste the contents of the clipboard into a destination document.

The [X Window System](#) maintains an additional clipboard containing the most recently selected text; middle-clicking pastes the content of this "selection" clipboard into whatever the [pointer](#) is on at that time.

Most [terminal emulators](#) and some other applications support the key combinations Ctrl-Insert to copy and Shift-Insert to paste. This is in accordance with the [IBM Common User Access](#) (CUA) standard. For similar functionality in historical text-mode terminals in Unix systems such as Linux and FreeBSD, see [GPM](#) or [moused](#).