New Features

- Special Key Actions in IGEL OS 12

Special Key Actions in IGEL OS 12

In IGEL OS 12 you can trigger special key actions, like decreasing the volume, by pressing special keys of the keyboard.

Accessing Special Keys - Combinations with Fn and Ctrl Key

When to use [Fn] key?

In many keyboards the special keys share the same physical key as function keys. For example, the **[Volume down]** and **[F2]** share the same keyboard key on many Lenovo keyboards. To differentiate between the action triggered by pressing the key, you might need to keep the **[Fn]** key pressed down to switch to the special key and trigger the special key action instead of the function key action. This depends on the keyboard and the local configurations, and can also be the other way around, so that you need to use the **[Fn]** key to access the function key actions.

To test whether you need to use the **[Fn]** key, try to decrease the volume just by pressing the dedicated special key. If nothing happens, try keeping the **[Fn]** key pressed down while pressing the dedicated special key.

When to use key combinations with [Ctrl] key?

When VDI sessions are used, some special keys and key combinations are also forwarded to the VDI session. If you want the special key or key combination to be handled by the IGEL OS itself, you need to press **[Ctrl]** in addition to the other keys. For example, if you want to switch between IGEL OS windows, press **[Ctrl]+[Alt]+[Tab]**. However, the special keys that are not relevant for the OS running in the VDI session, for example volume or brightness control, are always handled by the IGEL OS without the need to press **[Ctrl].**

Basic Special Keys

The following common special keys are supported in IGEL OS 12.

> In many cases these special keys are located on the function keys **[F1]-[F6]**. However, depending on the hardware, they can be located differently and still trigger the same action.

Special key	Action triggered
Mute speaker	Mute loudspeaker
Volume down	Decrease audio volume
Volume up	Increase audio volume
Mute microphone	Mute microphone
Brightness down	Decrease display brightness
Brightness up	Increase display brightness

Lenovo Specific Special Keys

If you are using IGEL OS 12 on specific Lenovo devices, you can use special keys to trigger additional actions described in the table below. In some cases, the special key triggers the action when pressed in combination with the Ctrl key. For example, to maximize the window, you need to press **[Ctrl]+[Maximize Window]**.

> ℹ️ Special key actions are supported starting from IGEL OS version 12.5.1 and with the following Lenovo models:
> - ThinkPad L13 Gen5 Intel
> - ThinkPad L14 Gen5 AMD/Intel
> - ThinkPad L16 Gen1 AMD/Intel

Special key	Action triggered on L14 Gen5 Intel/ AMD and L16 Gen1 Intel/AMD	Action triggered on L13 Gen5 Intel	Further Information
Display Mirror Special Key (located at F7)	Launch IGEL display tray app		For details on the display tray app, see (12.4.2-en) Tray Applications in IGEL OS 12.

Special key	Action triggered on L14 Gen5 Intel/ AMD and L16 Gen1 Intel/AMD	Action triggered on L13 Gen5 Intel	Further Information
Power Mode / Flight Mode Special Key (located at F8)	Access power mode The following power modes are available: • low-power - limits max power and keeps fan running quieter • balanced - normal operation • performance - peak performance and higher temperatures allowed	Turn on flight mode	ℹ️ Performance mode is not available when you move the laptop around. This is because the g-sensor detects movement and assumes the device is used in lapmode, placed on your lap. In lapmode the system maintains lower temperatures. You can check the sensor status with: `cat /sys/devices/platform/thinkpad_acpi/dytc_lapmode`
Ctrl + Print Screen Special Key (located at F9)	Take screenshot of the whole screen	Not mapped to any action	
Ctrl + Snipping Tool Special Key (located at F10)	Launch Snipping Tool	Not mapped to any action	
Ctrl + Maximize Window Special Key (located at F11)	Maximise window (double press to restore)	Not mapped to any action	

Special key	Action triggered on L14 Gen5 Intel/ AMD and L16 Gen1 Intel/AMD	Action triggered on L13 Gen5 Intel	Further Information
Star key (located on F12)	Jump to the web browsers URL bar if web browser is installed.		• If a web browser is running, **Ctrl+L** is sent to focus the URL bar. • If no web browser is running, the default browser is launched and the focus is automatically set in the URL bar. • If no web browser is installed: the key has no effect. ℹ️ If multiple web browsers are installed, the action is only triggered for the default browser.