

A Guide to DWM

Welcome!

You may have noticed already but the controls are not quite Vim based. However, they very much are, it is just that I use a Colemak DH keyboard. So while keys may not make sense on QWERTY, it makes sense in the context of Colemak DH.

Keybindings

First of all, the modkey is defined as being the Super Key or the Windows Key. The modkey will be displayed as `Mod+xyz`. If the letter in the key is capitalized then that means the shift key needs to be pressed as well.

Basic Keys

- `Mod+m/l` – Changes the width of the Main window (usually on the left side).
- `Mod+n/e` – changes the active window down/up the window stack, turning the window stack into a vector
- `Mod+N/E` – moves the currently active window up and down the stack, allowing you to reorder the windows.
- `Mod+l/u` – hard to explain but the best I can is that it changes how the windows are displayed.
- `Mod+k/j` – changes the current selected desktop tag decreasing/increasing it.
- `Mod+K/J` – takes the current active with you when you change the current desktop tag.
- `Mod+q` – closes the currently active window
- `Mod+t/b` – goes to the **Top/Bottom** of the stack or to the **Main/last** window*
- `Mod+a/z` – Changes the currently active window to the 2nd/3rd window*
- `Mod+Alt t/z/x` – Increases/Decreases the gaps around the windows
- `Mod+g` – Toggles on and off the gaps around the windows. Including `shift` resets the gaps.
- `Mod+space` – Moves the current active window to the be the Main window (called “zoom” for some reason)
- `Mod+comma/period` – moves the cursor to the left/right monitor’s main window or it wraps around to the next available monitor.
- `Mod+</>` – Or `Mod+COMMA/PERIOD` moves the current active window to the main window on the left/right monitor.

*Holding `shift` will allow you to move windows to those locations in the stack

Launching Programs

- `Mod+d` – launches `dmenu`
- `Mod+enter` – launches the terminal, currently set to `Alacritty`
- `Mod+ENTER` – launches the terminal file manager `NNN` with the `-c` flag and `preview-tabbed` plugging. Including `control` launches `NNN` in edit mode.
- `Mod+w` – launches `firefox` (TODO: make use an environment variable instead of hardcoded value)
- `Mod+r` – launches `Thunar` (Xfce GUI file manager)
- `Mod+Ctrl+e` – launches `Easyeffects` for audio manipulation.
- `Mod+s` – launches `Spectacle` to take screenshots adding `shift` also adds the screenshot to the clipboard. Adding `Alt` launches `Flameshot` instead so that you can also annotate the screenshot.
- `Mod+h` – opens `panther_launcher` for accessing `.desktop` programs.
- `Mod+c` – opens `R` in a scratchpad for terminal math.
- `Ctrl+Alt+enter` – opens a terminal scratchpad
- `Mod+M` – opens `CMUS` in a floating window (must first be started in `bash`, otherwise it doesn't work)
- `Mod+D` – opens `keepmenu`, a `dmenu` frontend for `keepass2`
- `Mod+Ctrl+x` – opens `keepassxc` as a non-floating scratchpad window if `keepmenu` doesn't work

System Hotkeys

- `Mod+Ctrl+q` – opens `sysact`, a script that uses `dmenu` to perform several different system actions (refreshing `dwm` doesn't work atm)
- `Mod+Ctrl+backspace` – kills `dwm` which will refresh `dwm`. Use `sysact` to leave `dwm` or shutoff.
- `Mod+Ctrl+s` – suspends the system and launches the lockscreen
- `Mod+backspace` – launches `betterlockscreen` to lock the screen.
- `Ctrl+Alt+delete` – launches `btcp` in `alacritty` for system monitoring.
- `Mod+C` – opens the `deadd-notification-center` to view notifications
- `Mod+v` – opens the `copyq` context menu over the current position of the cursor. Adding `control` opens the `copyq` clipboard.

Window Layouts

- `Mod+Ctrl+t` – changes the to the default tiling layout indicated at the top with a `[] =`
- `Mod+Ctrl+f` – changes the layout to the floating window layout indicated with `><>`
- `Mod+Ctrl+m` – changes the layout to the monacle layout, indicated by `[1]` (or any other

number)

- `Mod+f` – changes the layout to the fullscreen layout, which hides the bar and sets the window to take up fullscreen
- `Mod+F` – sets the currently active window to be a floating window. `Mod+middlemouse` does the same thing
- `Mod+rightmouse` – holding this down sets a window as a floating window and allows you to resize the floating window.
- `Mod+leftmouse` – holding this down allows you to drag floating windows around.