

# Computer keyboard key explanations

Key/symbol	Explanation
Windows	PC keyboards have a Windows key that looks like a four-pane, wavy window.
F1 - F12	function keys or F-keys
Esc	Esc (escape) key.
Tab	Tab key.
Caps lock	Caps lock key.
Shift	Shift key.
Ctrl	Control key.
Alt	Alternate key (PC only; Mac users have an Option key).
Spacebar	Spacebar key.
Arrows	Up, down, left, right Arrow keys.
Back Space	Back space (or Backspace) key.
Delete	Delete or Del key.
Enter	Enter key.
Prt Scrn	Print Screen key.
Scroll Lock	Scroll Lock
Pause	Pause key.
Break	Break key.
Insert	Insert key.
Home	Home key.
Page up	Page up or pg up key.
Page down	Page down or pg dn key.
Num Lock	Num Lock key.
~	Tilde.
`	Acute, back quote, grave, grave accent, left quote, open quote, or a push.
!	Exclamation mark, exclamation point, or bang.
@	Ampersat, arobase, asperand, at, or at symbol.
#	Octothorpe, number, pound, sharp, or hash.
\$	Dollar sign or generic currency.

Key/symbol	Explanation
^	Caret.
%	Percent.
&	Ampersand, epershand, or and symbol.
*	Asterisk, mathematical multiplication symbol, and sometimes referred to as a star.
(	Open or left parenthesis.
)	Close or right parenthesis.
-	Hyphen, minus, or dash.
_	Underscore.
+	Plus.
=	Equal.
{	Open brace, squiggly brackets, or curly bracket.
}	Close brace, squiggly brackets, or curly bracket.
[ ]	Square brackets.
[	Open bracket.
]	Closed bracket.
	Pipe, or, or vertical bar.
\	Backslash or reverse solidus.
/	Forward slash, solidus, virgule, whack, and mathematical division symbol.
:	Colon.
;	Semicolon.
"	Quote, quotation mark, or inverted commas.
'	Apostrophe or single quote.
<	Less than or angle brackets.
>	Greater than or angle brackets.
,	Comma.
.	Period, dot, or full stop.
?	Question mark.