

A Guide to Using Yaroslav's i3 Setup

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Introduction

This is a short guide on how to get around i3 using my dot files. You can open this file from i3 at any time by pressing **Mod+F1**. In the case of this setup, Mod refers to the Meta/Super key (or Windows key, for people new to Linux).

If you are reading this because you pressed **Mod+F1** from within i3 using my config, you can navigate around this document using the vim navigation keys, or the arrow keys. Zoom in with **Ctrl++** and out with **Ctrl+-**, press **Mod+F** to go fullscreen.

Keyboard configuration

There are a number of changes to the default keyboard layout/configuration, some of which you might want to change. If you need to make any changes, you should edit the file `~/.scripts/remaps`.

- Caps Lock is useless, big, and occupies a very valuable location, so it has been remaped to function as the escape key if just pressed/tapped, and as another Meta key if you hold it while pressing another key. You might want to leave this one if you also use vim like me.
- In case you really need to use Caps Lock (what are you? An internet troll?), the menu button (the one on the bottom right besides Right Control) has been remaped to Caps Lock.
- Since I write text in English, Spanish and Russian, I have configured three layouts, US layout, Spanish and Russian.

Status bar

Polybar is used as the status bar in my configuration. Most modules (like workspaces, time, date) are the ones that come with it. Some are just scripts that output something to Polybar (like the IP address one). Polybar's configuration is under `~/.config/polybar`.

Key bindings

Basic navigation

Just in case: if there is a capital letter, then it means you have to press Shift!

- **Mod+Enter** – Open a terminal.
- **Mod+q** – Close window/program.
- **Mod+d** – Open dmenu to run a program without shortcuts.
- **Mod+v** – Switch to spawning to the bottom of the current window.
- **Mod+b** – Switch to spawning to the right of the current window.
- **Mod+f** – Fullscreen.
- **Mod+h/j/k/l** – Move to different windows.
- **Mod+H/J/K/L** – Move window around.
- **Mod+Y/U/I/O** – Resize window.
- **Mod+a/A** – Increase/decrease inner gaps.
- **Mod+z/Z** – Increase/decrease outer gaps.
- **Mod+D** – Set all gaps to 0.
- **Mod+t** – Set gaps to default.
- **Mod+Shift+Space** – Toggle window from tiling to floating.
- **Mod+Space** – Switch focus between tiled and floating windows.
- **Mod+S** – Make floating window sticky (stays on active workspace).
- **Mod+Ctrl+b** – Make window sticky float in the bottom left corner.
- **Mod+Shift+b** – Make window sticky float in the bottom right corner.
- **Mod+Shift+minus** – Move window to the scratchpad (like minimizing windows on other DEs).
- **Mod+minus** – Show the next window on the scratchpad.
- **Mod+w** – Change container layout to tabbed.
- **Mod+s** – Change container layout to stacking.

Workspaces

There are nine workspaces. Don't really need more, (rarely use more than five), and I use the `Mod+0` combination for the power prompt.

- `Mod+(1-9)` – Go to that number workspace.
- `Mod+Shift+(1-9)` – Send window to that number workspace, and switch to it.
- `Mod+Ctrl+(1-9)` – Send window to that number workspace, but stay in the current workspace.
- `Mod+Shift+Tab` – Go to the workspace to the left.
- `Mod+Tab` – Go to the workspace to the right.

Programs and shortcuts

Shortcuts for opening my most used programs. Any other program can be opened by summoning `dmenu` (`Mod+d`).

- `Mod+r` – ranger, console based file browser and manager.
- `Mod+m` – ncmpcpp, music player (mpd/mopidy front-end).
- `Mod+W` – Primary browser (Firefox).
- `Mod+Ctrl+w` – Secondary browser (Chromium).
- `Mod+g` – GIMP.
- `Mod+i` – Inkscape.
- `Mod+p` – Show/Hide "Dropdown" terminal with tmux.
- `Mod+'` – Search with duckduckgo.
- `Mod+Shift+'` – Open emoji menu.

System

- `Mod+F1` – Open this guide.
- `Mod+F3` – Open `arandr` to change displays and output layout.
- `Mod+x` – Lock the computer (type password and press enter to unlock).
- `Mod+0` – Open power prompt (Shutdown, reboot, etc.).

Screen capture

- **PrintScreen** – Take a screenshot and save it to `/Pictures/screenshots`.
- **Shift+PrintScreen** – Take a screenshot of a specific area and save it to `/Pictures/screenshots`.
- **Mod+PrintScreen** – Open dmenu to select a kind of screen recording, or stop an ongoing recording.
- **Mod+Delete** – Stop without confirmation an ongoing recording.
- **Mod+c** – Toggle a webcam feed in the bottom right corner of your screen.

Audio

All media keys are bound to their respective function. Play/pause, next/previous work with mpd/mopidy only.