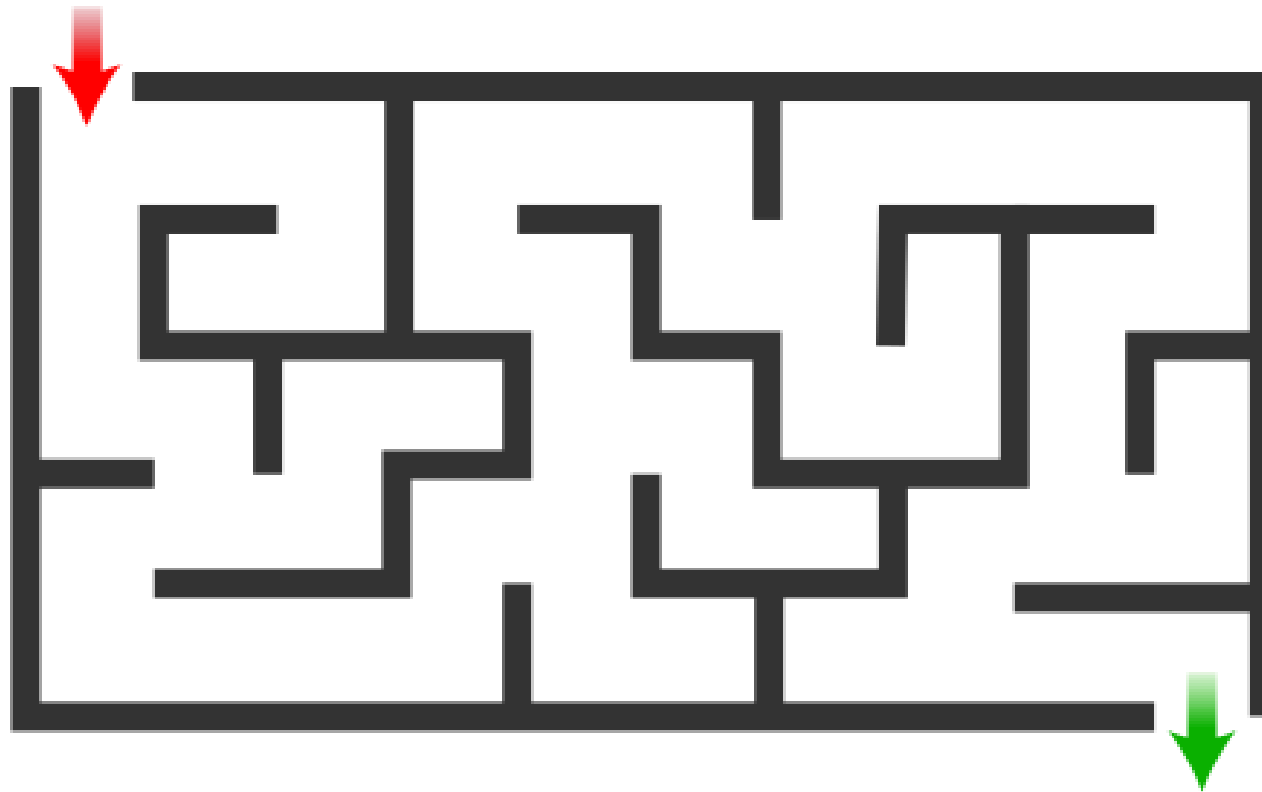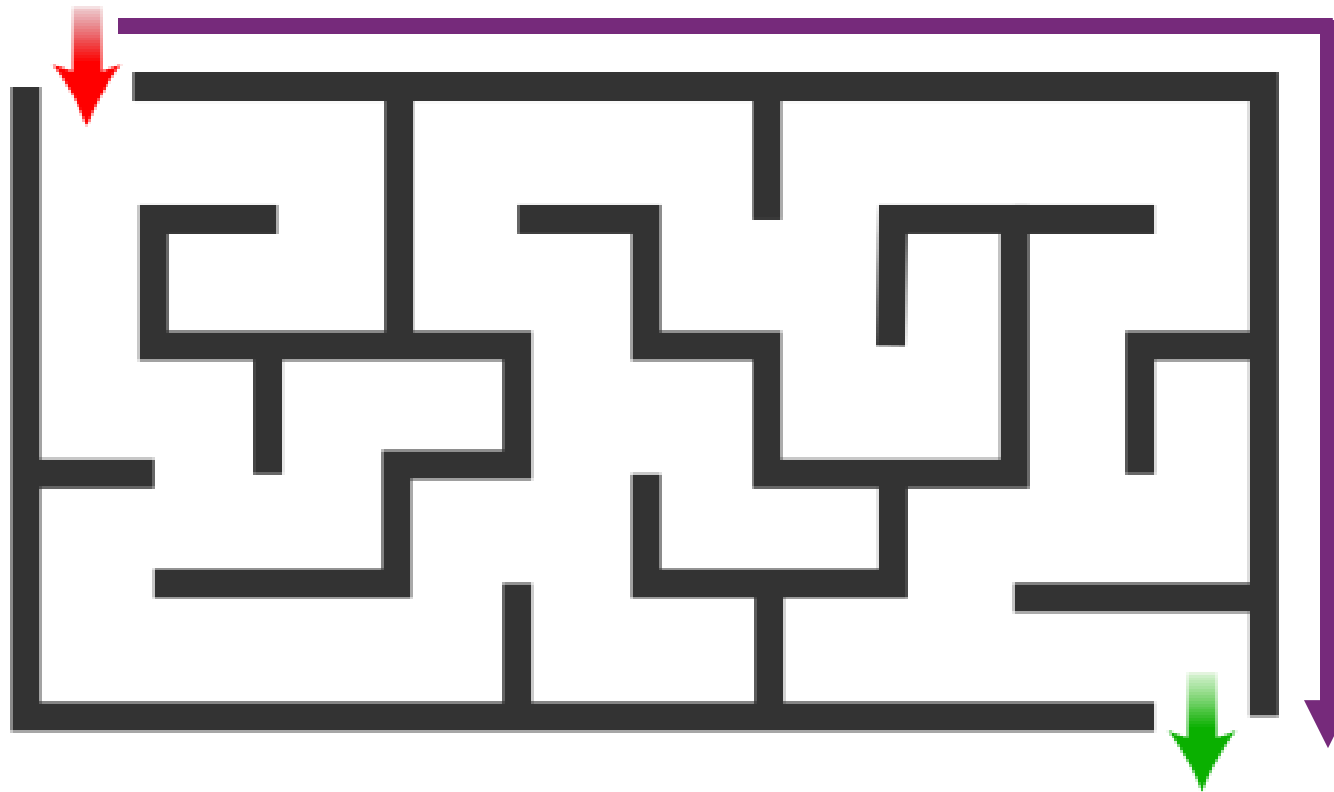# Taking Shortcuts Beyond Your IDE

Annelore Egger

DEVNEXUS™

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Can You Find The Shortest Path?

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Can You Find The Shortest Path?

Do You Use Shortcuts Other Than Those?

Ctrl / ⌘ + C

Ctrl / ⌘ + V

Ctrl / ⌘ + X

Ctrl / ⌘ + S

Ctrl / ⌘ + Z

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About Me

- Frequent shortcut user

- BSc in Computer Science

- 8 years of programming experience

- Software Engineer, OpenValue Switzerland since May 2024

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Motivation

- Time saving

- Developers usually strive to be more efficient, might overlook the easiest ways.

- Shortcuts are more than just the keyboard shortcuts

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IntelliJ Productivity Guide

IntelliJ IDEA uptime: 59 min, 14 sec, idle time: 21 sec, 821 ms
Code completion has saved you from typing at least 9.3K characters since 02.09.2024 (~158 per working day)
Quick-fixes have saved you from 177 possible bugs since 04.09.2024 (~3 per working day)

Feature	Group	Used ⌄	Last Used
Editor delete line	Code Editing	957 times	one hour ago
Basic code completion	Code Completion	782 times	53 minutes ago
Switcher	Navigation	734 times	one hour ago
Variable name completion	Code Completion	535 times	one week ago
Find in files	Navigation	404 times	5 days ago
Go to declaration	Navigation	391 times	one week ago
Find	Navigation	372 times	one week ago
Search Everywhere	Navigation	317 times	5 days ago

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Advantages of Keyboard Shortcuts

- Efficiency

- Less context switches

  Navigate to recent tabs
  (IntelliJ & VS Code)

  Ctrl + →|

- You feel more professional 😉

Navigate between applications
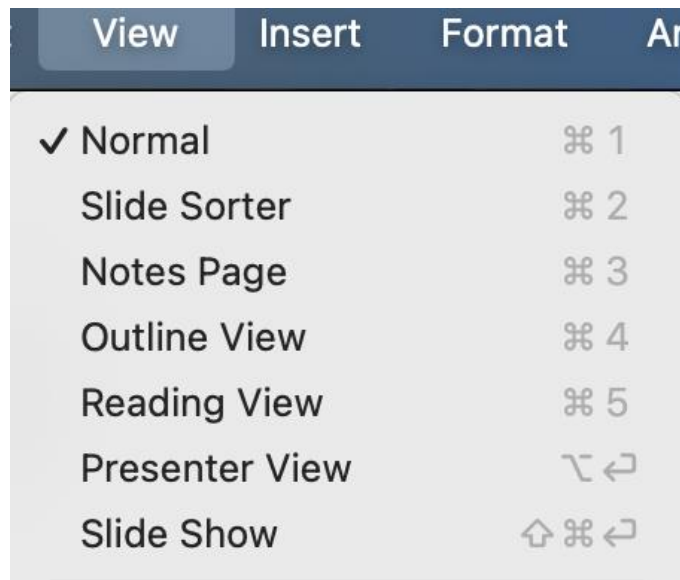
 + →|

Alt + →|

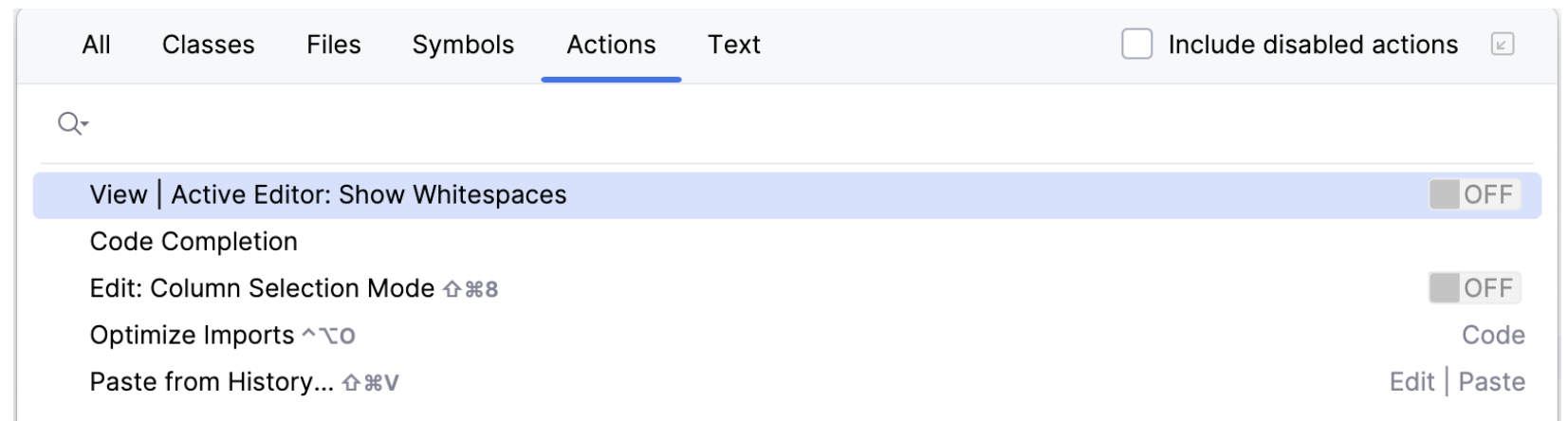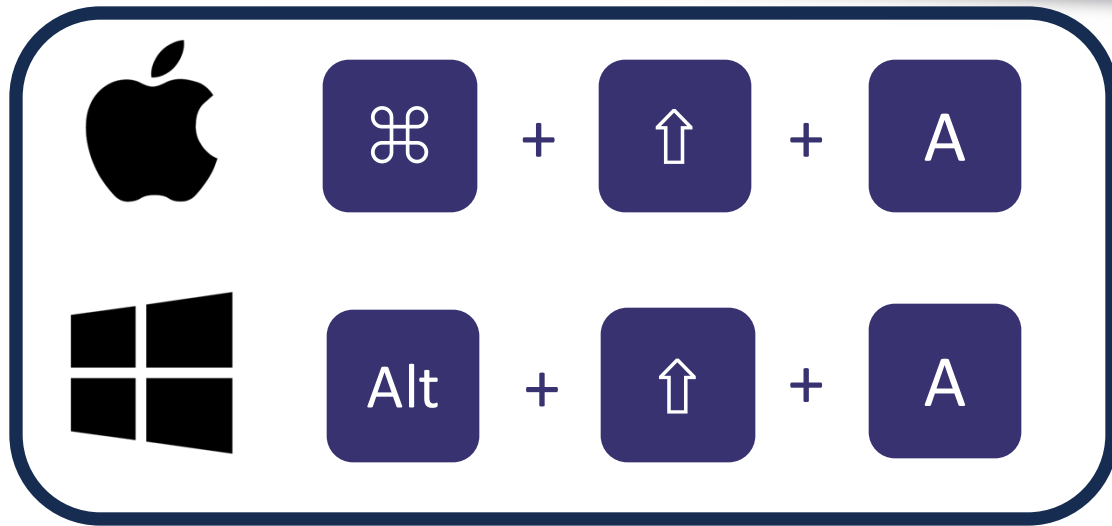OPENVALUE
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How You Can Start Using More Keyboard Shortcuts

- Integrate learning shortcuts into your workflow

- Looking up shortcuts directly in the tool or online

IntelliJ: List Actions

All	Classes	Files	Symbols	**Actions**	Text		☐ Include disabled actions ⬓

🔍▾

View | Active Editor: Show Whitespaces	▭ OFF
Code Completion	
Edit: Column Selection Mode ⇧⌘8	▭ OFF
Optimize Imports ⌃⌥O	Code
Paste from History... ⇧⌘V	Edit | Paste

VS Code: Keyboard Shortcuts Menu
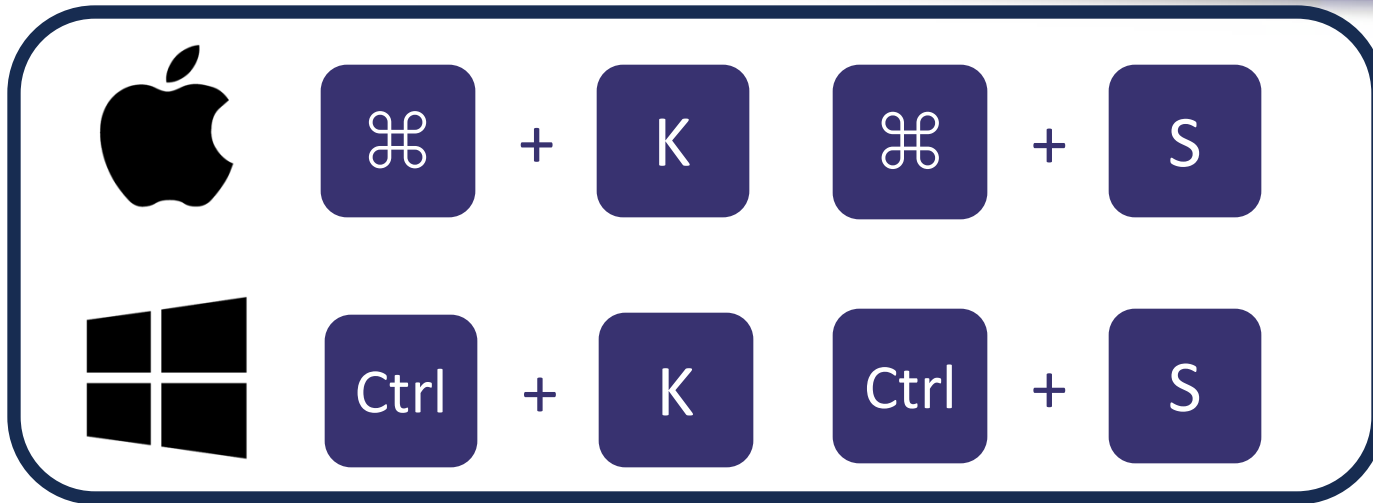
Command	Keybinding	When	Source
Accept Inline Completion	`^` `⇧` `7`	`accessibleViewIsShown && accessibleViewCurre…`	System
Accept Inline Suggestion	`Tab`	`inlineEditIsVisible && tabShouldAcceptInline…`	System
Accept Next Word Of Inline Suggestion	`⌘` `→`	`inlineSuggestionVisible && !editorReadonly`	System
Accessible Diff Viewer: Go to Next Difference	`F7`	`isInDiffEditor`	System
Accessible Diff Viewer: Go to Previous Differ…	`⇧` `F7`	`isInDiffEditor`	System
Add Cursor Above	`⌥` `⌘` `↑`	`editorTextFocus`	System
Add Cursor Below	`⌥` `⌘` `↓`	`editorTextFocus`	System

Tools that help to learn shortcuts

- Plugins
  - Key Promoter X (IntelliJ), Key Promoter (VS Code)

- Other tools
  - KeyCombiner (for Mac, Windows and Linux)
  - Mac (Cheatsheet, ShortcutDetective,…)
  - Windows (Microsoft PowerToys see shortcut guide)

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PowerPoint

⌘ ,	Preferences...
⌘ H	Hide PowerPoint
⌥⌘ H	Hide Others
⌘ Q	Quit PowerPoint
⌥⌘ Q	Quit and Keep Windows

File

⌘ N	New Presentation
⇧⌘ P	New from Template...
⌘ O	Open...
⇧⌘ O	More...
⌘ W	Close
⌘ S	Save
⇧⌘ S	Save a Copy...
⌘ P	Print...

Edit

⌘ Z	Undo Move Object
⌘ Y	Redo New Slide
⌘ X	Cut
⌘ C	Copy
⌘ V	Paste
^⌘ V	Paste Special...
⌥⇧⌘ V	Paste and Match Formatting
⌘ A	Select All
⌘ D	Duplicate
⌘ F	Find...
^ F	Advanced Find...
^ H	Replace...
^⌘ Z	Toggle Drawing
E	Emoji & Symbols

View

⌘ 1	Normal
⌘ 2	Slide Sorter
⌘ 3	Notes Page
⌘ 4	Outline View
⌘ 5	Reading View
⌥ ↵	Presenter View
⇧⌘ ↵	Slide Show
^⇧ ⇥	Show Outline
⌥⌘ 1	Slide Master
⌥⌘ 2	Handout Master
⌥⌘ 3	Notes Master
⌥⌘ R	Ribbon
^⌥⌘ G	Guides
⌘ ^	Gridlines
⌥⌘ O	Fit to Window
⌘ !	Zoom In
⌘ -	Zoom Out
F	Enter Full Screen

Insert

⇧⌘ N	New Slide
⇧⌘ D	Duplicate Slide
⇧⌘ M	Comment

Format

⇧⌘ C	Pick Up Colour Scheme
⇧⌘ 2	Slide Background...

Arrange

⌥⌘ U	Selection Pane...

Tools

^⌘ L	Smart Lookup...

Slide Show

⇧⌘ ↵	Play from Start
⌘ ↵	Play from Current Slide
⌥ ↵	Presenter View

Window

⌘ M	Minimise
28 F	Fill
28 C	Centre
28 ←	Left
28 →	Right
28 ↑	Top
28 ↓	Bottom
29 ←	Left & Right
31 ←	Left & Quarters
29 →	Right & Left
31 →	Right & Quarters
29 ↑	Top & Bottom
31 ↑	Top & Quarters
29 ↓	Bottom & Top
31 ↓	Bottom & Quarters
28 R	Return to Previous Size

Help

⌘ ?	PowerPoint Help

Screenshots

⇧⌘ 3	Save Screenshot
^⇧⌘ 3	Copy Screenshot
⇧⌘ 4	Save Screenshot (Selection)
^⇧⌘ 4	Copy Screenshot (Selection)

CheatSheet

⌘	command
⌥	option/alt
^	control/ctrl
⇧	shift

Custom Shortcuts

- IntelliJ

- VS Code

- Other Tools
  - Karabiner Elements
  - Keysmith

Custom Shortcuts In IntelliJ
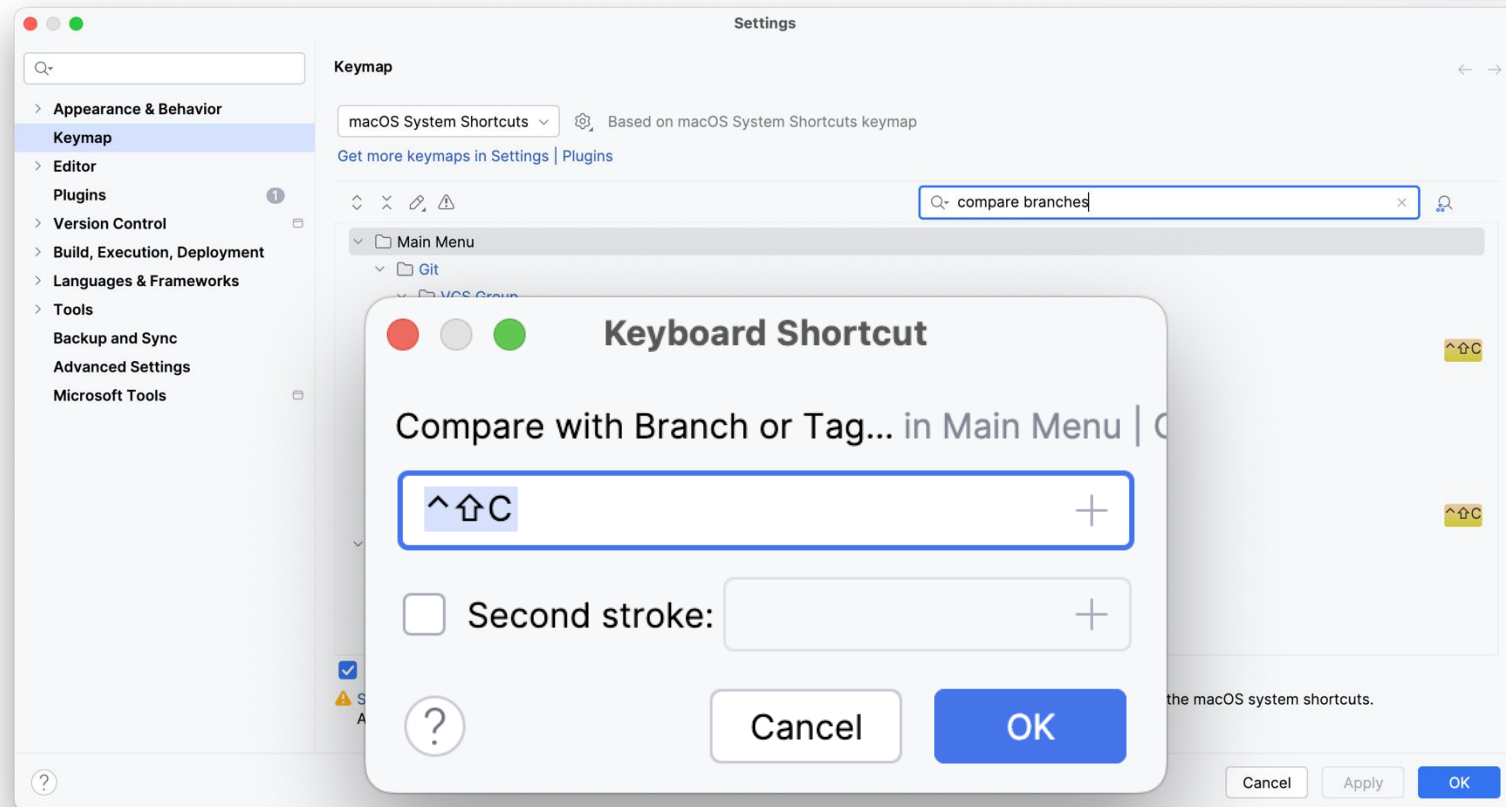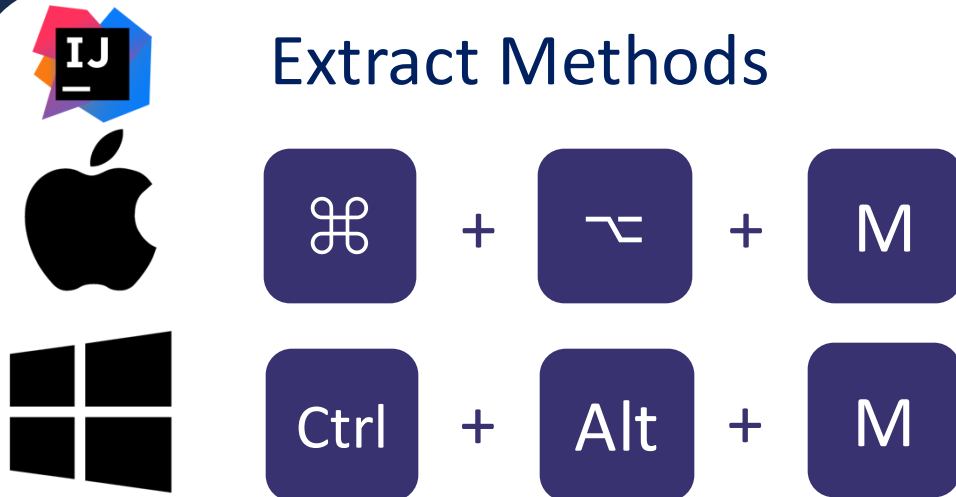
Shortcuts in Your IDE

- Refactoring ([IntelliJ](), [VS Code]())
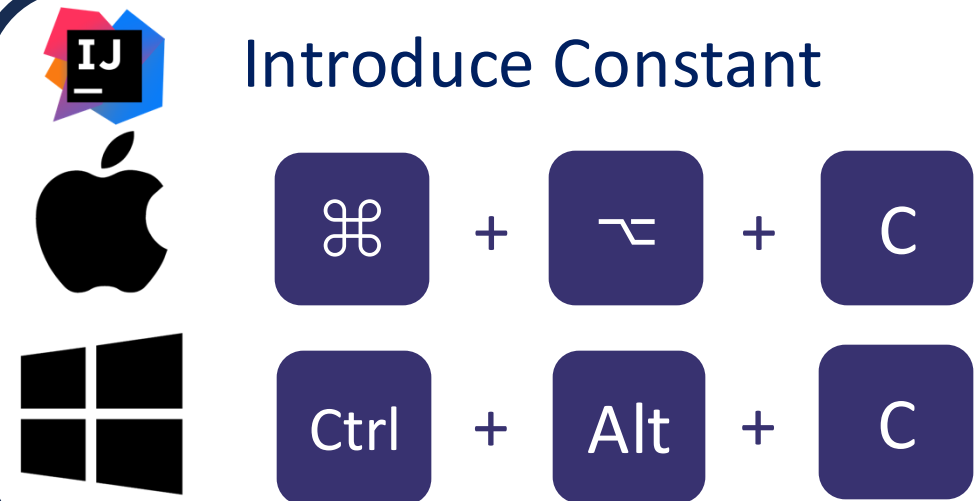 - Rename
  - Extract Methods
  - Inline

Rename Variables

IJ ⇧ + F6   F2

Extract Methods

⌘ + ⌥ + M

Ctrl + Alt + M

Introduce Constant

⌘ + ⌥ + C

Ctrl + Alt + C

```java
package temperatureconverter;

import java.util.Scanner;

public class TemperatureConverter {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Scanner foo = new Scanner(System.in);

        System.out.println("Temperature Converter");
        System.out.println("1: Celsius to Fahrenheit");
        System.out.println("2: Fahrenheit to Celsius");
        System.out.print("Choose an option: ");
        int choice = foo.nextInt();

        if (choice == 1) {
            System.out.print("Enter temperature in Celsius: ");
            double celsius = foo.nextDouble();
            double fahrenheit = (celsius * 9 / 5) + 32;
            System.out.println("Temperature in Fahrenheit: " + fahrenheit);
        } else if (choice == 2) {
            System.out.print("Enter temperature in Fahrenheit: ");
            double fahrenheit = foo.nextDouble();
            double celsius = (fahrenheit - 32) * 5 / 9;
```
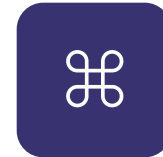
Shortcuts in Your IDE

- [Code generation](#)

- Code completion

Search everywhere

⇧ + ⇧

Complete current statement (IntelliJ)

⌘ + ⇧ + ↵

Ctrl + ⇧ + ↵

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Type / to see commands

☕ LiveTemplate.java src/main/java/org/springframework/samples/petclinic/system   spring-petclinic 📋

☕ Vets.java src/main/java/org/springframework/samples/petclinic/vet   spring-petclinic 📋

☕ CrashController.java src/main/java/org/springframework/samples/petclinic/system   spring-petclinic 📋

☕ ClinicServiceTests.java src/test/java/org/springframework/samples/petclinic/service   spring-petclinic 📋

☕ WelcomeController.java src/main/java/org/springframework/samples/petclinic/system   spring-petcli... 📋

☕ Specialty.java src/main/java/org/springframework/samples/petclinic/vet   spring-petclinic 📋

☕ Vet.java src/main/java/org/springframework/samples/petclinic/vet   spring-petclinic 📋

☕ VetController.java src/main/java/org/springframework/samples/petclinic/vet   spring-petclinic 📋

☕ VetRepository.java src/main/java/org/springframework/samples/petclinic/vet   spring-petclinic 📋

☕ PetClinicRuntimeHints.java src/main/java/org/springframework/samples/petclinic   spring-petclinic 📋

M↓ README.md .   spring-petclinic 📋

</> pom.xml .   spring-petclinic 📋

☕ CacheConfiguration.java src/main/java/org/springframework/samples/petclinic/system   spring-petc... 📋

SonarLint

∨ ☕ EntityUtils.java **(1 issue)**

  ⌃ (-, -) Add a private constructor to hide the implicit public one. 12 years ago

∨ ☕ Owner.java **(1 issue)**

  ⌃ (-, -) Merge this if statement with the enclosing one. [+1 location] 1 year ago

∨ ☕ OwnerController.java **(1 issue)**

  ⬤ (-, -) Define a constant instead of duplicating this literal "error" 3 times. [+3 locations] 3 months ago

❯ ☕ OwnerControllerTests.java **(16 issues)**

∨ ☕ PetController.java **(1 issue)**

  ⬤ (-, -) Immediately return this expression instead of assigning it to the temporary variable "owner". 3 months ago

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Useful IDE Features

- Download suggested plugins

- Add business terms to the dictionary (and download additional languages)

- Look at suggestions but also question them!

- "clean IDE"

- Local History

- Live templates

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```
1    package org.springframework.samples.petclinic.system;
2
3    public class LiveTemplate {    no usages      new *
4        public static void main(String[] args) { new Integer() }
7    }
8
```

Helpful Automations

- IntelliJ Before Commit

  - Code formatting

  - Optimizing imports

  - Running SonarLint

- [Git hooks](#)

- Regularly run git fetch

- Automatic saving (e.g., VS Code, KeePass)

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Version upgrades

- OpenRewrite

- renovate

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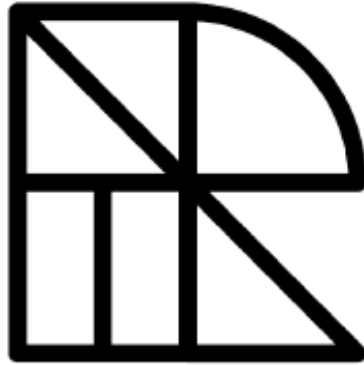
OpenRewrite Example

- [Java 21 Upgrade](#)

- Searched 1064 Files, 88 Files changed → max. effort 15 minutes

- Changes:
  - Introduction of `.formatted` instead of `String.format`
  - `getFirst` instead of `get(0)`, `getLast` instead of `get(x.size() - 1)`
  - `instanceof` pattern matching

- Simplifications
- Using new features
- → Leads to more consistency

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Renovate

```
          ↑              @@ -31,7 +31,7 @@
  31      31                 "devDependencies": {
  32      32                     "@eslint/compat": "1.2.7",
  33      33                     "@eslint/eslintrc": "3.3.0",
  34      -                      "@eslint/js": "9.20.0",
          34      +              "@eslint/js": "9.21.0",
  35      35                     "@playwright/test": "1.50.1",
  36      36                     "@tailwindcss/vite": "4.0.8",
  37      37                     "@testing-library/dom": "10.4.0",
          ↕              @@ -45,7 +45,7 @@
  45      45                     "@vite-pwa/assets-generator": "0.2.6",
  46      46                     "@vitejs/plugin-react": "4.3.4",
  47      47                     "@vitest/browser": "3.0.6",
  48      -                      "eslint": "9.20.1",
          48      +              "eslint": "9.21.0",
  49      49                     "eslint-config-prettier": "10.0.1",
  50      50                     "eslint-plugin-react": "7.37.4",
  51      51                     "eslint-plugin-react-hooks": "5.1.0",
          ↓              @@ -337,17 +337,17 @@
```

Using Existing Libraries

- Check if a solution already exists before implementing something new

- Properly document your framework

- Using your own framework takes more time as new employees have to be trained

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More Shortcuts

- Column selection/multi-cursor editing

- Middle button/back button on mouse

- GitHub Copilot, JetBrains AI, ChatGPT → check company policy first!

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```
server.host=localhost
server.port=8080
server.timeout=3000

database.url=jdbc:mysql://localhost:3306/mydb
database.user=root
database.password=secret

logging.level=INFO
logging.file=app.log
```

More Shortcuts

- Column selection/multi-cursor editing

- Middle button/back button on mouse

- GitHub Copilot, JetBrains AI, ChatGPT → check company policy first!

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Pitfalls

- Custom shortcuts or shortcuts from a tool could override an existing shortcut

- Be careful when refactoring (sometimes IDEs are almost too good)

- Keyboard shortcuts not the same across platforms

⚠️ **Shortcuts conflicts**   16:48

Find Action... and 11 more shortcut conflict with macOS shortcuts. Modify these shortcuts or change macOS system settings.

Modify Shortcuts   Don't Show Again

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When NOT to take Shortcuts

- Keep proper code review process

- Think about what the tools propose to do
  - Do not ignore warnings/errors

Consciously decide **when** to take shortcuts

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Conclusion

- If there is something you do often: can it be simplified/automated?

- Try one new shortcut or automation technique each week

- Do what works for you

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Thank you for your attention

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🐙 anneloreegger

in /in/annelore-dev

𝕏 @AnneloreEgger

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Further resources

- [Top 15 IntelliJ IDEA Shortcuts](#)

Sources

- Icons from: https://uxwing.com/

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