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# Ultimate list of all Windows keyboard shortcuts with Win keys

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Ever since Windows 95, the Windows key (or Win key) is ubiquitous on PC keyboards. With each new release of Windows, Microsoft has added new keyboard shortcuts with the Win key. Here is a complete list of all Winkey shortcuts.

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The Win key when pressed by itself opens the Start Menu on systems which have it. On Windows 8 it opens the Start screen. Here are all the other Win key combinations which you may not be aware of.

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**Win+A:** Does nothing in Windows 8.x, opens Action Center in Windows 10.

**Win+B:** Moves the focus to the notification area (System tray)

**Win+C:** Shows Charms, and the date & time (Windows 8 and later)

**Win+D:** Shows the Desktop. When you press Win+D again, it restores the open windows.

**Win+E:** Opens Explorer

**Win+F:** Opens file search. Prior to Windows 8, this opened Explorer search. Now it opens the Search pane with Files selected for searching

**Win+Ctrl+F:** Opens the Find Computers dialog (for Active Directory/domain joined PCs)

**Win+G:** Brings gadgets to the top of other windows.

**Win+H:** Opens the Share charm on Windows 8

**Win+I:** Opens the Settings charm on Windows 8

**Win+J:** Does nothing

**Win+K:** Opens the Devices charm

**Win+L:** Locks the PC or lets you switch users

**Win+M:** Minimizes all windows. Win+Shift+M does undo minimize all

**Win+N:** Does nothing in Windows. In Microsoft OneNote, it opens a new Note.

**Win+O:** Locks or unlocks the orientation of the device if it's a tablet PC so if even if you rotate it, it won't rotate

**Win+P:** Opens the UI to project to another display or projector

**Win+Q:** Opens the app specific search in Windows 8.1. e.g. In Modern IE, it will search Internet Explorer. In PC Settings, it will search Settings and so on.

**Win+R:** Opens the Run dialog

**Win+S:** Opens the search with "Everywhere" selected

**Win+T:** Focuses on the taskbar icons. Pressing Win+T again moves the focus to the next icon.

**Win+U:** Opens Ease of Access Center (or Utility Manager in Windows XP/2000)

**Win+V:** Focuses on the Metro style toast notifications and cycles through them

**Win+W:** Opens the search pane with Settings selected

**Win+X:** Opens the [Power Users menu on Windows 8](#) and later. On Windows 7/Vista, it opens Mobility Center

**Win+Y:** Does nothing

**Win+Z:** Shows the App Bar in a Modern app, same as right clicking inside a Modern app

**Win+1/2/3....0:** Opens or switches to the correspondingly numbered Taskbar button

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**Win+'+':** Opens Magnifier and zooms in [blog channel!](#)

**Win+'-':** Zooms out in Magnifier

**Win+Esc:** Exits Magnifier if it's running

**Win+F1:** Opens Help and Support

**Win+Pause/Break:** Opens System Properties

**Win+Print screen:** Takes a screenshot in Windows 8 and saves it to the Screenshots folder

**Win+Home:** Same as Aero Shake (minimizes all windows except the foreground window)

**Win+Left arrow key:** Snaps a desktop app's window to the left. In Windows 8.1, it also snaps a Modern app's window to the left.

**Win+Right arrow key:** Snaps a desktop app's window to the right. In Windows 8.1, it also snaps a Modern app's window to the right.

**Win+Up arrow key:** Maximizes a window. In Windows 8.1, it also makes a snapped Modern app full screen.

**Win+Down arrow key:** Minimizes a window. In Windows 8.1, it suspends a Metro app and takes you to either the Desktop or the Start screen depending on your Start screen settings

**Win+Page Down:** In Windows 8.0, it moves a Modern app's window to the next display if multiple monitors are connected. In Windows 8.1, this shortcut is moved to Win+Shift+Right arrow key to be consistent with desktop apps

**Win+Page Up:** moves a Modern app's window to the previous display if multiple monitors are connected. In Windows 8.1, this shortcut is moved to Win+Shift+Left arrow key to be consistent with desktop apps

**Win+Enter:** Starts Narrator (on Windows 8 and later)

**Win+Alt+Enter:** Starts Media Center

**Win+Space:** In Windows 7, it does an Aero Peek. In Windows 8, it switches the input language

**Win+Comma (,):** In Windows 8, this is the new key for Aero Peek

**Win+Period (.):** Shows you which is the active window (useful when two Modern apps are snapped).

**Win+Tab:** In Windows 8 and later, when you press Win+Tab and release it, you can switch between Modern apps, the Start screen and the Desktop. If you continue to hold the Win key, it will show you the Switcher UI and when you let go of the Win key, it will switch. In Windows 7/Vista, Win+Tab shows Flip 3D which operates similarly.

**Ctrl+Win+Tab:** Shows the Switcher UI in sticky mode so you can use keyboard

arrow keys or mouse to switch. Ctrl+Win+Tab also opens Flip 3D in sticky mode in Windows 7/Vista

Let us know if we missed any Win key shortcuts and tell us if you discovered any new ones from this article. :)

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Gaurav is a software enthusiast from India and Classic Shell tester & UX consultant. He started with Windows 95 and is good at software usability testing. He firmly believes that user experience is just as important as software code quality and architecture for software to be successful.

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## 9 thoughts on “Ultimate list of all Windows keyboard shortcuts with Win keys”

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Now in Russian please =) This article is desirable on your Russian site =) Thanks =)

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My russian site has a lot of such articles :)

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win+shift+S

clip the desktop to save it in onenote or copy to clipboard

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It should be noted that on Windows 10, Win+Tab opens the Task View UI, rendering its enabled-by-default taskbar button completely superfluous.

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Win+Shift+Up arrow maximizes the current window's height only – I use this one \*a lot\* – especially in Firefox and Word!

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Ctrl+Win+D Creates new desktop in Win 10. Ctrl+Win+(Left or Right arrow key) moves between desktops

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Win + left arrow or win + right arrow allows the file to snap left or right (so you can see both files in front of you)

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