

# GitHub Copilot Keyboard Shortcuts Reference

Master GitHub Copilot with these essential keyboard shortcuts for maximum productivity across different platforms.

## Core Copilot Shortcuts

Action	MacOS Shortcut	Windows Shortcut	Linux Shortcut	Description
Open Copilot Chat	Ctrl + Cmd + I	Ctrl + Alt + I	Ctrl + Alt + I	Open chat panel for conversations
Open Copilot Edits	Shift + Cmd + I	Ctrl + Shift + I	Ctrl + Shift + Alt + I	Start multi-file editing session
Open Quick Chat	Shift + Option + Cmd + L	Ctrl + Shift + Alt + L	Ctrl + Shift + Alt + L	Quick chat overlay
Start Inline Chat	Cmd + I	Ctrl + I	Ctrl + I	Inline chat within editor

## Code Completion Shortcuts

Action	MacOS Shortcut	Windows Shortcut	Linux Shortcut	Description
Accept Suggestion	Tab	Tab	Tab	Accept current Copilot suggestion
Accept Word	Cmd + →	Ctrl + →	Ctrl + →	Accept next word of suggestion
Accept Line	Cmd + Shift + →	Ctrl + Shift + →	Ctrl + Shift + →	Accept current line of suggestion

## GitHub Copilot Keyboard Shortcuts Reference

Action	MacOS Shortcut	Windows Shortcut	Linux Shortcut	Description
Dismiss Suggestion	Esc	Esc	Esc	Dismiss current suggestion
Next Suggestion	Option + ]	Alt + ]	Alt + ]	Cycle to next suggestion
Previous Suggestion	Option + [	Alt + [	Alt + [	Cycle to previous suggestion
Trigger Suggestion	Option + \	Alt + \	Alt + \	Manually trigger Copilot

## Chat Interface Navigation

Action	MacOS Shortcut	Windows Shortcut	Linux Shortcut	Description
Send Message	Cmd + Enter	Ctrl + Enter	Ctrl + Enter	Send chat message
New Chat Session	Cmd + L	Ctrl + L	Ctrl + L	Start new chat thread
Focus Chat Input	Cmd + Shift + L	Ctrl + Shift + L	Ctrl + Shift + L	Focus chat input field
Clear Chat History	Cmd + K	Ctrl + K	Ctrl + K	Clear current chat session
Toggle Chat Panel	Cmd + Shift + C	Ctrl + Shift + C	Ctrl + Shift + C	Show/hide chat panel

## Inline Chat Controls

Action	MacOS Shortcut	Windows Shortcut	Linux Shortcut	Description
Accept Changes				

## GitHub Copilot Keyboard Shortcuts Reference

Action	MacOS Shortcut	Windows Shortcut	Linux Shortcut	Description
	Cmd + Enter	Ctrl + Enter	Ctrl + Enter	Apply inline chat changes
Discard Changes	Cmd + Z	Ctrl + Z	Ctrl + Z	Reject inline changes
Show Diff	Cmd + Shift + V	Ctrl + Shift + V	Ctrl + Shift + V	View changes in diff mode
Regenerate Response	Cmd + R	Ctrl + R	Ctrl + R	Generate new response

## Editing Session Management

Action	MacOS Shortcut	Windows Shortcut	Linux Shortcut	Description
Add File to Working Set	Cmd + +	Ctrl + +	Ctrl + +	Add current file to editing session
Remove from Working Set	Cmd + -	Ctrl + -	Ctrl + -	Remove file from working set
Apply All Changes	Cmd + Shift + A	Ctrl + Shift + A	Ctrl + Shift + A	Accept all pending changes
Discard All Changes	Cmd + Shift + D	Ctrl + Shift + D	Ctrl + Shift + D	Reject all pending changes
Preview Changes	Cmd + Shift + P	Ctrl + Shift + P	Ctrl + Shift + P	Preview all modifications

## Context and Navigation

Action	MacOS Shortcut	Windows Shortcut	Linux Shortcut	Description
<b>Add Selection Context</b>	Cmd + Shift + S	Ctrl + Shift + S	Ctrl + Shift + S	Add selected code as context
<b>Add File Context</b>	Cmd + Shift + F	Ctrl + Shift + F	Ctrl + Shift + F	Add current file as context
<b>Reference Symbol</b>	Cmd + Shift + R	Ctrl + Shift + R	Ctrl + Shift + R	Reference symbol in chat
<b>Go to Definition</b>	F12	F12	F12	Navigate to symbol definition
<b>Find References</b>	Shift + F12	Shift + F12	Shift + F12	Find all symbol references

## Quick Actions

Action	MacOS Shortcut	Windows Shortcut	Linux Shortcut	Description
<b>Explain Code</b>	Cmd + Shift + E	Ctrl + Shift + E	Ctrl + Shift + E	Quick explain selected code
<b>Generate Tests</b>	Cmd + Shift + T	Ctrl + Shift + T	Ctrl + Shift + T	Generate tests for selection
<b>Fix Issues</b>	Cmd + .	Ctrl + .	Ctrl + .	Quick fix suggestions
<b>Generate Documentation</b>	Cmd + Shift + /	Ctrl + Shift + /	Ctrl + Shift + /	Generate docs for code
<b>Optimize Code</b>	Cmd + Shift + O	Ctrl + Shift + O	Ctrl + Shift + O	Optimize selected code

## Accessibility Shortcuts

Action	MacOS Shortcut	Windows Shortcut	Linux Shortcut	Description
Voice Chat Activation	Cmd + Shift + V	Ctrl + Shift + V	Ctrl + Shift + V	Activate voice input
Read Response Aloud	Cmd + Option + R	Ctrl + Alt + R	Ctrl + Alt + R	Audio playback of response
Accessible Diff View	Cmd + Option + D	Ctrl + Alt + D	Ctrl + Alt + D	Screen reader friendly diff

## Terminal Integration

Action	MacOS Shortcut	Windows Shortcut	Linux Shortcut	Description
Terminal Chat	Cmd + Shift + T	Ctrl + Shift + T	Ctrl + Shift + T	Chat with terminal context
Explain Command	Cmd + ?	Ctrl + ?	Ctrl + ?	Explain terminal command
Suggest Command	Cmd + Shift + ?	Ctrl + Shift + ?	Ctrl + Shift + ?	Suggest terminal commands

## Customization Shortcuts

Action	MacOS Shortcut	Windows Shortcut	Linux Shortcut	Description
Open Settings	Cmd + ,	Ctrl + ,	Ctrl + ,	Access Copilot settings
Toggle Copilot	Cmd + Shift + \	Ctrl + Shift + \	Ctrl + Shift + \	Enable/disable Copilot
Participant Selector	Cmd + @	Ctrl + @	Ctrl + @	Quick participant selection

## Pro Tips for Keyboard Efficiency

### Workflow Acceleration

1. **Quick Context Addition**: Use Cmd/Ctrl + Shift + S to quickly add selected code as context
2. **Rapid Iterations**: Use Cmd/Ctrl + R to regenerate responses without retyping
3. **Batch Operations**: Use Cmd/Ctrl + Shift + A to accept all changes in editing sessions
4. **Smart Navigation**: Use F12 and Shift + F12 for quick symbol navigation

### Chat Optimization

1. **Session Management**: Use Cmd/Ctrl + L for new sessions, Cmd/Ctrl + K to clear history
2. **Quick Actions**: Memorize quick action shortcuts for common tasks (explain, test, fix)
3. **Context Switching**: Use participant shortcuts (@workspace, @terminal, etc.)
4. **Voice Integration**: Use voice shortcuts for hands-free coding assistance

### Editing Session Mastery

1. **Working Set Management**: Quickly add/remove files with +/- shortcuts
2. **Change Review**: Use preview shortcuts before accepting large changes
3. **Selective Application**: Accept/reject individual changes with precise control
4. **Diff Navigation**: Master diff view shortcuts for better change understanding

## Customizing Shortcuts

### Personal Customization

Access **File > Preferences > Keyboard Shortcuts** (or **Code > Preferences** on macOS) to customize any Copilot shortcuts to match your workflow preferences.

### Team Standardization

Use VS Code settings sync or workspace settings files to standardize shortcuts across your development team.

### Advanced Bindings

Create custom key bindings for frequently used Copilot commands:

```
{
  "key": "cmd+shift+x",
  "command": "workbench.action.chat.open",
  "args": "@workspace explain this architecture"
}
```

## Platform-Specific Notes

### macOS Considerations

- Some shortcuts may conflict with system shortcuts
- Use **System Preferences > Keyboard > Shortcuts** to resolve conflicts
- Consider using **Fn** key for F-key shortcuts if needed

### Windows Considerations

- **Alt** key combinations work well for Copilot actions
- **Ctrl + Shift** combinations provide extensive functionality
- Windows key can be used for custom global shortcuts

### Linux Considerations

- Key bindings may vary between desktop environments
- GTK and Qt applications may handle shortcuts differently
- Custom window managers may require additional configuration

Remember: Consistent use of keyboard shortcuts significantly accelerates your AI-assisted development workflow!