

# How to use AutoHotkey for automation of input

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# What is AutoHotkey?

- Free, open-source scripting language for Windows
- Allows for easily mapping keys and automation
- The basic syntax is `<IfThis>::<ThenDoThis>`
- AutoHotkey scripts are saved as .ahk files

# My uses for AutoHotkey

- Remap PrtSc key to menu key
- Mac-like hotkeys
- SAS snippets

# Steps

- Install AutoHotkey
- On desktop, right click New -> AutoHotkey Script
- Right click the file and Edit Script
- Double click the file to Run Script
- To load on startup, save shortcut to script  
C:\Users\<username>\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\

# Symbols

Symbol	Key
#	Windows key
!	Alt
^	Ctrl
+	Shift
&	Combine several keys as hotkey
:*:	The text that follows this is a hotstring.
	Lines that begin with ; are comments

# Simple Hotkeys

Code	Comment
<code>^F11::Suspend</code>	Pause/Resume AutoHotkey
<code>^F12::Reload</code>	Reload AutoHotkey
<code>PrintScreen::Send {AppsKey}</code>	Remap PrtSc to menu key
<code>!F12::^+!b</code>	Search Box drive

# Hotkeys for Mac type keys

Code	Comment
<code>!x::Send ^x</code>	If Alt-X, Send Ctrl-C, Cut
<code>!c::Send ^c</code>	Copy
<code>!v::Send ^v</code>	Paste
<code>!s::Send ^s</code>	Save
<code>#IfWinNotActive, ahk_exe Zoom.exe !a::Send ^a #IfWinNotActive</code>	If not Zoom and Alt-A, send Ctrl-A. (In Zoom, Alt-A is used as shortcut to mute audio)
<code>!z::Send ^z</code>	Undo
<code>!w::Send ^w</code>	Close
<code>!w::Send ^f</code>	Find

# Hotkeys for SAS (1)

```
!7::
    sasruler =
(
*****;
)
    SendInput, %sasruler%{Enter}
Return
```

```
!8::
    sasheading =
(
*****;
title ;
*****;
)
    SendInput, %sasheading%{Up}{End}{Left}
Return
```



# Hotkeys for SAS (2)

```
;;;;;;;;;;;;  
; Variables  
;;;;;;;;;;;;  
dataset_name := "d1"
```

```
;;;;;;;;;;;;  
; Add tray menu to change dataset name  
;;;;;;;;;;;;  
Menu, Tray, Add ; Creates a separator line.  
Menu, Tray, Add, Change dataset, ChangeDataset  
Return
```

ChangeDataset:

```
    InputBox dataset_name, Dataset name, Enter the dataset name, , , ,  
    , , , , %dataset_name%  
Return
```

```
!F11::InputBox dataset_name, Dataset name, Enter the dataset name, ,  
    , , , , , , %dataset_name%
```

# Hotkeys for SAS (2)

```
*:frf::  
    tosend =  
(  
proc freq data=%dataset_name%;  
tables ;  
run;  
)  
    SendInput, %tosend%{Up}{End}{Left}  
Return
```

```
*:f2f::  
    tosend =  
(  
proc freq data=%dataset_name%;  
tables / nocol norow nopercnt chisq;  
run;  
)  
    SendInput, %tosend%{Up}{End}{Left 27}  
Return
```

# Hotkeys for SAS (3)

```
:*:mef::  
    tosend =  
(  
proc means data=%dataset_name% n mean stddev stderr median p25 p75  
min max maxdec=3;  
var ;  
run;  
)  
    SendInput, %tosend%{Up}{End}{Left}  
Return
```

# Limitations

- Does not work with Remote Desktop and VMware horizon client

# Resources

- AutoHotkey web site:  
<https://www.autohotkey.com/>
- AutoHotkey documentation:  
<https://www.autohotkey.com/docs/AutoHotkey.htm>
- Download my script  
<https://github.com/ksint/myahkscript>