

# VSCode Tips & Tricks

Useful features of VSCode and keyboard shortcut tips

# Overview

- An Introduction to VS Code
- Useful features of the editor
- Common Keyboard Shortcuts

# Learning Objectives

- Be aware of the capabilities of VS Code
- Move around the editor using keyboard shortcuts
- Perform common text manipulation with keyboard shortcuts
- Use multiple cursors to work more efficiently

# The command palette

Every function of VS Code can be accessed from the Command Palette.

Ctrl + Shift + P or ⌘ + ⇧ + P

Type in what you're looking for.

It also shows the keyboard shortcuts if there is one.

# Editor Layout

We can affect the panels in our editor window with keyboard shortcuts.

# The Sidebar

- Show the file tree: Ctrl + Shift + E or ⌘ + ⇧ + E
- Show the file search: Ctrl + Shift + F or ⌘ + ⇧ + F
- Show the source control panel: Ctrl + Shift + G or ^ + ⇧ + G
- Toggle sidebar visibility: Ctrl + B or ⌘ + B

# The Terminal

- Create a new terminal tab: Ctrl + Shift + ` or ^ + ⬆ + `
- Show (or hide) the terminal: Ctrl + ` or ^ + `

There isn't a default shortcut for moving between terminals (`focus next terminal` in command palette)

You can also move the terminal to the side (`move panel right` in command palette)

# Split Editor

- Split the editor in two: Ctrl + \ or ⌘ + \
- Change split direction: Shift + Alt + 0 or ⌘ + ⌘ + 0



# Full screen

- Full Screen: F11 or  $\wedge + \text{⌘} + F$
- Zen mode: Ctrl + K, Z or  $\text{⌘} + K, Z$

# Managing Files

# Opening Files

- Open file: Ctrl + O or ⌘ + O
- Open folder: Ctrl + K, Ctrl O or ⌘ + O
- Quick open: Ctrl + P or ⌘ + P

## Other File Stuff

- Cycle through open files: Ctrl + Tab or ^ + →
- Save file: Ctrl + S or ⌘ + S
- Save all files: Ctrl + K, S or ⌘ + ⌘ + S
- Close file: Ctrl + W or ⌘ + W
- Reopen last closed file: Ctrl + Shift + T or ⇧ + ⌘ + T

# Editing Text

We spend a lot of time writing code. Let's make it easier.

# Moving Text Around

- Move line (or selected lines) up or down: Alt + ↓, Alt + ↑ or ⌘ + ↓, ⌘ + ↑
- Indent / Outdent line: Ctrl + ], Ctrl + [ or ⌘ + [

# Deleting Text

- Delete line: Ctrl + Shift + K or ⌘ + ⌘ + K
- Cut line: Ctrl + X or ⌘ + X
- Toggle line comment: Ctrl + / or ⌘ + /

# Duplicating Text

- Copy line: Ctrl + C or ⌘ + C
- Duplicate line below/above: Shift + Alt + ↓, ↑ or ⇧ + ⌘ + ↓, ↑



# Navigating Around Text

- Move left/right one word: Ctrl + ←/→ or ⌘ + ←/→
- Go to start/end of line: Home / End or ⌘ + ←/→
- Go to matching bracket: Ctrl + Shift + \ or ⌘ + ⌘ + \
- Go to line: Ctrl + G or ^ + G
- Go to symbol: Ctrl + Shift + 0 or ⌘ + ⌘ + O
- Go to definition: F12 or fn + F12
- Go back to where you were previously: Alt + ← or ^ + -

# Selecting Text

- Select text: Shift + ←, ↑, ↓, →
- Expand/shrink selection: Shift + Alt + →/← or ^ ⏏ →/←

# Multiple Cursors

- Add cursor below: Ctrl + Alt + ↓, Shift + Alt + ↓ or ⌘ + ⌥ + ⌘ + ↓
- Undo last cursor: Ctrl + U or ⌘ + U

You will find out which of these functions you can make most use of and which are worthwhile to learn the shortcuts for.

I would recommend starting off with:

1. Moving code around
2. Multiple cursors

Let's do some exercises to get familiar with these!

# Learning Objectives Revisited

- Be aware of the capabilities of VS Code
- Move around the editor using keyboard shortcuts
- Perform common text manipulation with keyboard shortcuts
- Use multiple cursors to work more efficiently