VISUAL STUDIO CODE Cheat Sheet

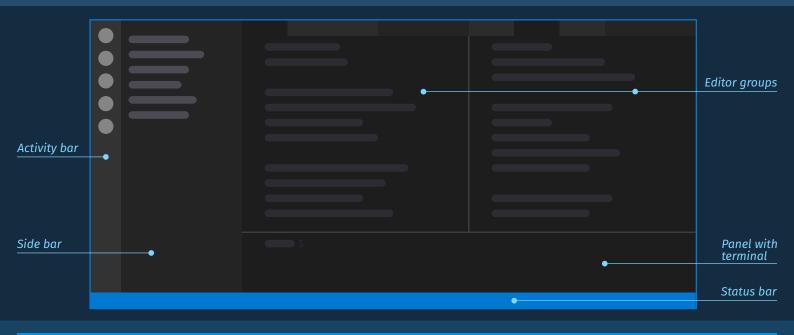presented by Tower — the best Git client for Mac and Windows

macOS edition

GENERAL

Show command palette	⌘ ⇧ P
Edit keyboard shortcuts	⌘ K ⌘ S

SMART CODE FEATURES

Trigger suggestion	^ SPACE
Trigger parameter hints	⌘ ⇧ SPACE
Go to definition	F12
Peek definition	⌥ F12
Show references	⇧ F12
Rename symbol	F2
Format document	⌥ ⇧ F
Format selection	⌘ K ⌘ F
Change file language	⌘ K M

SELECTING AND NAVIGATING CODE

Select line	⌘ L
Expand/shrink selection	⌘ ⇧ ^ → / ⌘ ⇧ ^ ←
Add cursor above/below	⌘ ⌥ ↑ / ⌘ ⌥ ↓
Add cursors at line ends	⌥ ⇧ I
Select all occurrences of selection	⌘ ⇧ L
Undo cursor operation	⌘ U
Skip currently selected word	⌘ K ⌘ D
Go back/forward	^ - / ^ ⇧ -
Go to line	^ G
Go to symbol	⌘ ⇧ O
Focus breadcrumbs	⌘ ⇧ .

EDITING CODE

Move line up/down	⌥ ↑ / ⌥ ↓
Copy line up/down	⌥ ⇧ ↑ / ⌥ ⇧ ↓
Delete line	⌘ ⇧ K
New line above/ below current	⌘ ENTER / ⌘ ⇧ ENTER
Indent/outdent line	⌘] / ⌘ [
Join line with next	^ J
Toggle line comment	⌘ /
Toggle block comment	⌥ ⇧ A
Trim trailing whitespace	⌘ K ⌘ X

Editor groups

Activity bar

Side bar

Panel with terminal

Status bar

EDITOR MANAGEMENT

Focus 1st, 2nd or 3rd editor group	⌘ 1 / ⌘ 2 / ⌘ 3
Open next/previous editor	⌘ ⌥ → / ⌘ ⌥ ←
Keep preview mode editor open	⌘ K ENTER
Close all	⌘ K ⌘ W
Reopen closed editor	⌘ ⇧ T
Open in new editor group	⌘ ENTER
Zen mode	⌘ K Z
New window/instance	⌘ ⇧ N
Close window/instance	⌘ ⇧ W

FILE NAVIGATION

Open recent	^ R
Quick open	⌘ P
Go to symbol in workspace	⌘ T
Copy path of file	⌘ K P
Reveal file in Finder	⌘ K R

SEARCH

Find	⌘ F
Replace	⌘ ⌥ F
Replace in files	⌘ ⇧ H
Find next/previous	⌘ G / ⌘ ⇧ G

TOOLS AND TERMINAL

Run build task	⌘ ⇧ B
Show/focus integrated terminal	^ `
Create new terminal	^ ⇧ `

VIEW

Toggle side bar	⌘ B
Show/focus explorer	⌘ ⇧ E
Show search	⌘ ⇧ F
Show source control	^ ⇧ G
Show debug	⌘ ⇧ D
Show extensions	⌘ ⇧ X
Toggle panel	⌘ J
Open Markdown preview	⌘ ⇧ V
Toggle word wrap	⌥ Z

TOWER

The best Git client
for Mac & Windows

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⬒ EDITOR SPLITS

You can **split editors** to achieve just about any layout you want. The **View → Editor Layout** menu holds some presets like **three columns** or a **two-by-two grid**. There are commands for splitting the current editor in any direction, and **dragging-and-dropping** the tab of an open file also lets you create a split in any direction. In addition, here are some ways to manage the editor layout:

⌘ `2` , ⌘ `3` etc. will bring up additional editors, or focus that editor if it's already opened.

⌥ -clicking a file in the Explorer in the side bar will open the file in a second editor.

⌘ `ENTER` in the Quick Open file list opens the file in a new editor.

$_ TERMINAL

The panel at the bottom of the VS Code interface houses an **integrated terminal**. ⌘ `J` toggles the panel, while ^ `` ` `` focuses and then toggles the terminal.

^ ⇧ `` ` `` opens a new terminal. You can **shift between open terminals** using the dropdown in the upper-right corner of the panel. The terminal can be split, and binding a keyboard shortcut to the command "View: Toggle Maximized Panel" allows you to temporarily maximize it.

There are also commands available to "**Run Selected Text in Active Terminal**" and "**Run Active File in Active Terminal**".

⌘ KEYBOARD SHORTCUT PREFERENCES

Open the keyboard shortcut preferences with the shortcut ⌘ `K` ⌘ `S`. Here, you can **search for a command** like "add cursor below", but you can also **search for a key binding**. For example, searching for "ctrl shift cmd right" shows the command bound to that shortcut.

The preferences show the keyboard shortcuts with the current keyboard layout. If you switch your keyboard layout, the shortcuts displayed update accordingly.

You can **filter the shortcuts** to display only bindings added by the user or default bindings by typing **@source:user** or **@source:default** in the search bar.