How do I duplicate a line or selection within Visual Studio Code?

Asked 4 years, 3 months ago   Active 1 month ago   Viewed 295k times

Using Microsoft's Visual Studio Code, how do I duplicate a line of code and then move it up and down? (Similar to Sublime's `cmd` + `shift` + `d` behaviour)

554

It's a feature that I use constantly, and am struggling using Visual Studio Code without it.

★

118

`editor` `visual-studio-code` `keyboard-shortcuts`

edited Apr 28 '17 at 7:01   asked May 13 '15 at 0:38

Sahan Serasinghe   Chris
1,103 14 21   **23.6k** 17 97 148

12 Answers

The commands your are looking for are `editor.action.copyLinesDownAction` and `editor.action.copyLinesUpAction` .

1005

You can see the associated keybindings by picking: *File > Preferences > Keyboard Shortcuts*

Windows:

✓

`Shift` + `Alt` + `Down` and `Shift` + `Alt` + `Up`

Mac:

`Shift` + `Option` + `Down` and `Shift` + `Option` `Up`

Linux:

`Ctrl` + `Shift` + `Alt` + `Down` and `Ctrl` + `Shift` + `Alt` + `Up`

Furthermore, commands `editor.action.moveLinesUpAction` and `editor.action.moveLinesDownAction` are the ones to move lines and they are bound to [Alt]+[Down] and [Alt]+[Up] on Windows and Mac and [Ctrl]+[Down] and [Ctrl]+[Up] on Linux.

edited Dec 4 '18 at 12:07   answered May 13 '15 at 6:16

jonasfh   Benjamin Pasero

2,701   1   16   33   **52.8k**   10   66   49

---

48   And it seems `Alt+Up` or `Alt+Down` moves an existing line up and down. Nice – Chris May 13 '15 at 6:19

4   **Tools | Options | Environment | Keyboard** in VS2015 – Mike Keskinov Sep 9 '16 at 19:01 ✎

14   Do you know how to "duplicate selection"? I couldn't find appropriate command :(– nZeus Oct 11 '16 at 20:37

17   not working for me. working on ubuntu 14. – Amit Kumar Gupta Jan 26 '17 at 21:43

17   On Linux `ctrl+shift+alt+down/up` only works for the num pad arrow keys. – Jack Steam May 11 '17 at 16:08 ✎

You can find keyboard shortcuts from

153

> File > Preferences > Keyboard Shortcuts

Default Keyboard Shortcuts are,

Copy Lines Down Action : [shift]+[alt]+[down]

Copy Lines Up Action : [shift]+[alt]+[up]

Move Lines Up Action : [alt]+[up]

Move Lines Down Action : [alt]+[down]

Or you can override the keyboard shortcuts from

> File > Preferences > Keyboard Shortcuts

And editing the `keybindings.json`

```
[
    {
        "key": "ctrl+d",
        "command": "editor.action.copyLinesDownAction",
        "when": "editorTextFocus"
    },
    {
        "key": "ctrl+shift+up",
        "command": "editor.action.moveLinesUpAction",
        "when": "editorTextFocus"
    },
    {
        "key": "ctrl+shift+down",
        "command": "editor.action.moveLinesDownAction",
        "when": "editorTextFocus"
    }
]
```

edited Apr 29 '17 at 0:22   answered Feb 3 '16 at 6:11

Sahan Serasinghe   manukn
1,103   14   21   1,796   1   7   15

Also, if you have to move a line far, ctrl+C and ctrl+X will easily copy/cut the current line without having to select it. And ` ctrl + L ` (command **expandLineSelection**) will select a line. Repeating ctrl + L selects additional lines making a block select easy. Or you can make a rough block select with mouse and then ctrl+L to include the ends. – aamarks Jun 15 at 6:16

In VScode, they call this ` Copy Line Up ` and ` Copy Line Down `
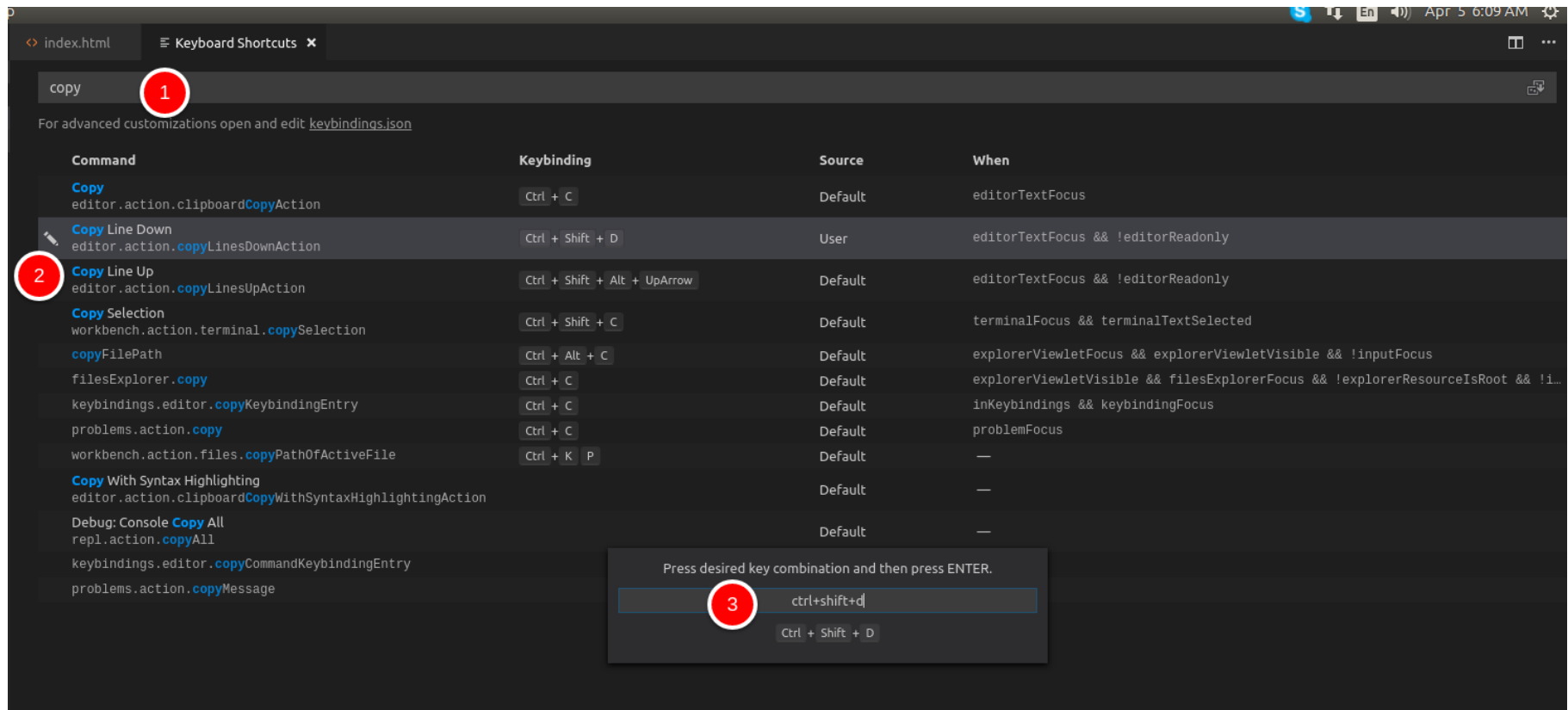
27

From the menu, go to:

File > Preferences > Keyboard Shortcuts

Check already assigned keyboard shortcut for this, or adjust yours.

Sometimes the default assigned shortcut may not work, mostly because of OS.

In my Ubuntu, I adjusted this to: Ctrl + Shift + D

edited Apr 5 '18 at 0:23   answered Apr 3 '18 at 0:12
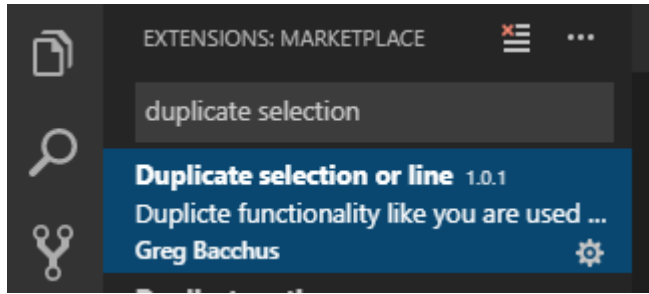
Nahid
1,954   1   14   14

26

It miss an answer to this question, **"How to duplicate selection of code"** Similar to Sublime's `cmd`/`ctrl` + `shift` + `d` or Jetbrains' `cmd`/`ctrl` + `d` behaviour.

Install plugin **Duplicate selection or line** from VS Code Marketplace

This extension provides bindings for `ctrl` + `d` (Windows/Linux) and `cmd` + `d` (MacOS). To customize keyboard shortcuts **Preferences -> Keyboard Shortcuts:**

```
{
  "mac": "cmd+d",
  "key": "ctrl+d",
  "command": "geeebe.duplicateText",
  "when": "editorTextFocus"
}
```

Note : The shortcut does also the duplicate line so if you install it, remove your previous `ctrl` + `d` shortcut on `copyLinesDownAction` (if you did it before) otherwise duplicate selection can bug.

answered Nov 16 '18 at 14:15

[Antman Slaper Man](#)

301　3　7

1　This one worked for me, thank you. – [srbrussell](#) Mar 1 at 14:12

1　This should be the accepted answer. Thanks! – [Fluchaa](#) Jul 25 at 7:32

Try `ALT` + `SHIFT` + `UP` / `DOWN`

16

It worked for me!

[edited Apr 28 '17 at 15:51](#)　　answered Dec 10 '16 at 18:36

In **VSCode** `Ctrl` + `C` `Ctrl` + `V` duplicates the whole line below.

13

I prefer this to the accepted answer, because it only requires one hand to do this and feels way more natural.

The accepted answer will probably do it for most people, however `Down` sits the other side of the keyboard. So you have two options, use both hands on (Left Hand: `L Shift` + `L Alt` + Right Hand: `Up/Down`), or with a single hand use the right `R Shift` + `R Alt` + `Up/Down` . The second option feels weird in my opinion. I'd rather use the option where my hand naturally sits on the keyboard, and if its one hand, even better.

answered Nov 15 '18 at 17:15

Nick De Beer
3,439   3   26   43

---

2   The main issue with that is you loose what was on your clipboard – Chris Nov 15 '18 at 22:15

@Chris - Good point, I guess its a trade off. – Nick De Beer Nov 15 '18 at 23:15

Note that for Ubuntu users (<= 17.4), Unity uses `CTRL + ALT + SHIFT + Arrow Key` for moving programs across virtual workspaces, which conflicts with the VS Code shortcuts. You'll need to rebind `editor.action.copyLinesDownAction` and `editor.action.copyLinesUpAction` to avoid the conflict (or change your workspace keybindings).

9

For Ubuntu 17.10+ that uses GNOME, it seems that GNOME does not use this keybinding in the same way according to its documentation, though if someone using vanilla workspaces on 17.10 can confirm this, it might be helpful for future answer seekers.

edited May 11 '18 at 19:14   answered Apr 28 '18 at 22:44

David Bodow
267   2   9

If you coming from Sublime Text and do not want to relearn new key binding, you can use this extension for Visual Code Studio.

6

Sublime Text Keymap for VS Code

This extension ports the most popular Sublime Text keyboard shortcuts to Visual Studio Code. After installing the extension and restarting VS Code your favorite keyboard shortcuts from Sublime Text are now available.

https://marketplace.visualstudio.com/items?itemName=ms-vscode.sublime-keybindings

edited Sep 26 '17 at 1:45   answered Aug 8 '17 at 8:58

reinierkors   cyberfly
436   6   16   **2,799**   8   39   56

2

Direct line duplication (without the clipboard step) is proposed by the Contextual Duplicate extension.

It is mapped on `ctrl` + `K` `D`

edited Feb 18 '18 at 13:18   answered Jan 11 '18 at 14:05

CharlesB
63.7k   20   152   178

1

For Fedora 29 workstation (Gnome 3.30.2) and Ubuntu users.

Unbind unnecessary left/right workspace keyboard combinations, list them by terminal

```
$ gsettings list-recursively | grep -E "org.gnome.desktop.wm.keybindings move-to-
workspace-|org.gnome.desktop.wm.keybindings switch-to-workspace-"
```
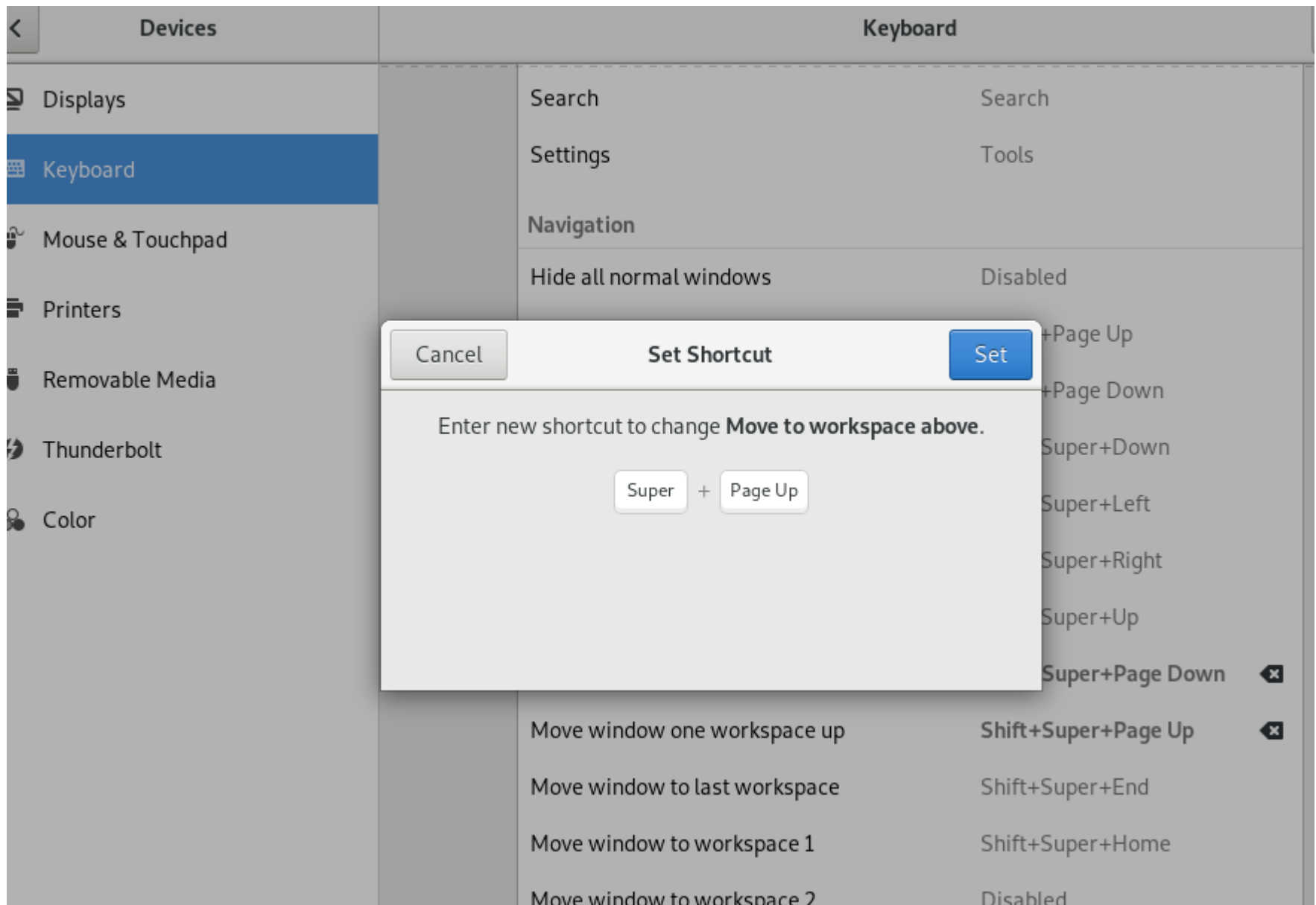
Unbind them

```
$ gsettings set org.gnome.desktop.wm.keybindings switch-to-workspace-left "[]"
$ gsettings set org.gnome.desktop.wm.keybindings switch-to-workspace-right "[]"
$ gsettings set org.gnome.desktop.wm.keybindings move-to-workspace-left "[]"
$ gsettings set org.gnome.desktop.wm.keybindings move-to-workspace-right "[]"
```

Reset duplicate shortcuts

They can be easily reset to work with only one shortcut in Settings>Devices>Keyboard
Only type again Super+PgUp for "Move to workspace above" as an example.

Devices		Keyboard	
⌨ Displays		Search	Search
⌨ **Keyboard**		Settings	Tools
⌨ Mouse & Touchpad		**Navigation**	
		Hide all normal windows	Disabled
⌨ Printers			+Page Up

Set Shortcut

Cancel   **Set**

Enter new shortcut to change **Move to workspace above.**

Super + Page Up

| | Super+Down |
| Super+Left |
| Super+Right |
| Super+Up |
| Super+Page Down ✕ |

Move window one workspace up	Shift+Super+Page Up ✕
Move window to last workspace	Shift+Super+End
Move window to workspace 1	Shift+Super+Home
Move window to workspace 2	Disabled

Now with less duplicate shortcuts in fedora29 all vscode shortcuts for linux must work fine.

For **Windows** :

To Copy Up -> shift+alt+up

▲

1

▼

To Copy Down -> shift+alt+down

For **mac** :

To Copy Up -> shift+option+up

To Copy Down -> shift+option+down

For **linux** :

To Copy Up -> ctrl+shift+alt+8

To Copy Down -> ctrl+shift+alt+2

Note : You may change your keyboard shortcuts keybinding for visual studio code by pressing **ctrl+shift+p**, then **type open keyboard shortcut** in the pallet and then hit enter so new file will be opened **(Key board shortcut file)** you can see all the shortcuts over their and can change keybindings by clicking twice over the respective keybinding and then by entering your own keybinding, finally hit enter.

Hope this will help somebody!

answered Jul 14 at 9:04

Aman Kumar Gupta

157   4

in my last version Visual Studio Code 1.30.2 it wil be change automatically into

▲

-1

ctrl + D

Bouchaib Ennakr
1　1　2

In vscode this highlights the word under the cursor. Perhaps Notepad++ used the ctrl+D shortcut. Just going from memory. – Flat Cat Mar 15 at 15:01