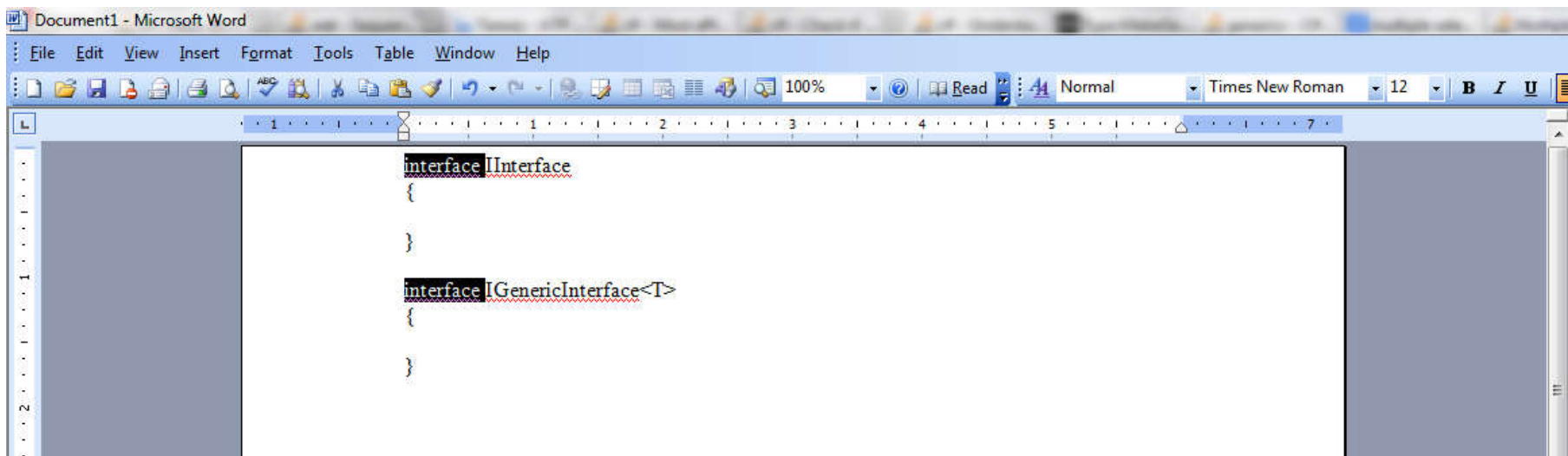


Multiple select in Visual Studio?

Is there a way to select multiple non-adjointing (totally separate) texts in VS? I can do it in MS Word by selecting the texts separately by holding the Ctrl button, like this:



My version is 11.

Edit: I'm not talking about `Alt+Select` block selection. Also I would love to see if there exist a technique in Notepad++.

[visual-studio](#)[visual-studio-2012](#)[selection](#)[text-editor](#)[multi-select](#)

edited Feb 8 at 7:28



mavis

2,017 1 16 28

asked May 11 '13 at 9:36



nawfal

45.2k 37 263 308

1 Are you asking about Visual Studio 2012 or Notepad++? – [Oded](#) May 11 '13 at 9:50

@Oded I thought it was obvious the question is about VS (included in the title as well). The thing about Notepad++ was a bonus question. – [nawfal](#) May 11 '13 at 9:51

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10 Answers

▲ Multi cursor edit is natively supported in Visual Studio starting from version 2017 Update 8. Here is the documentation:

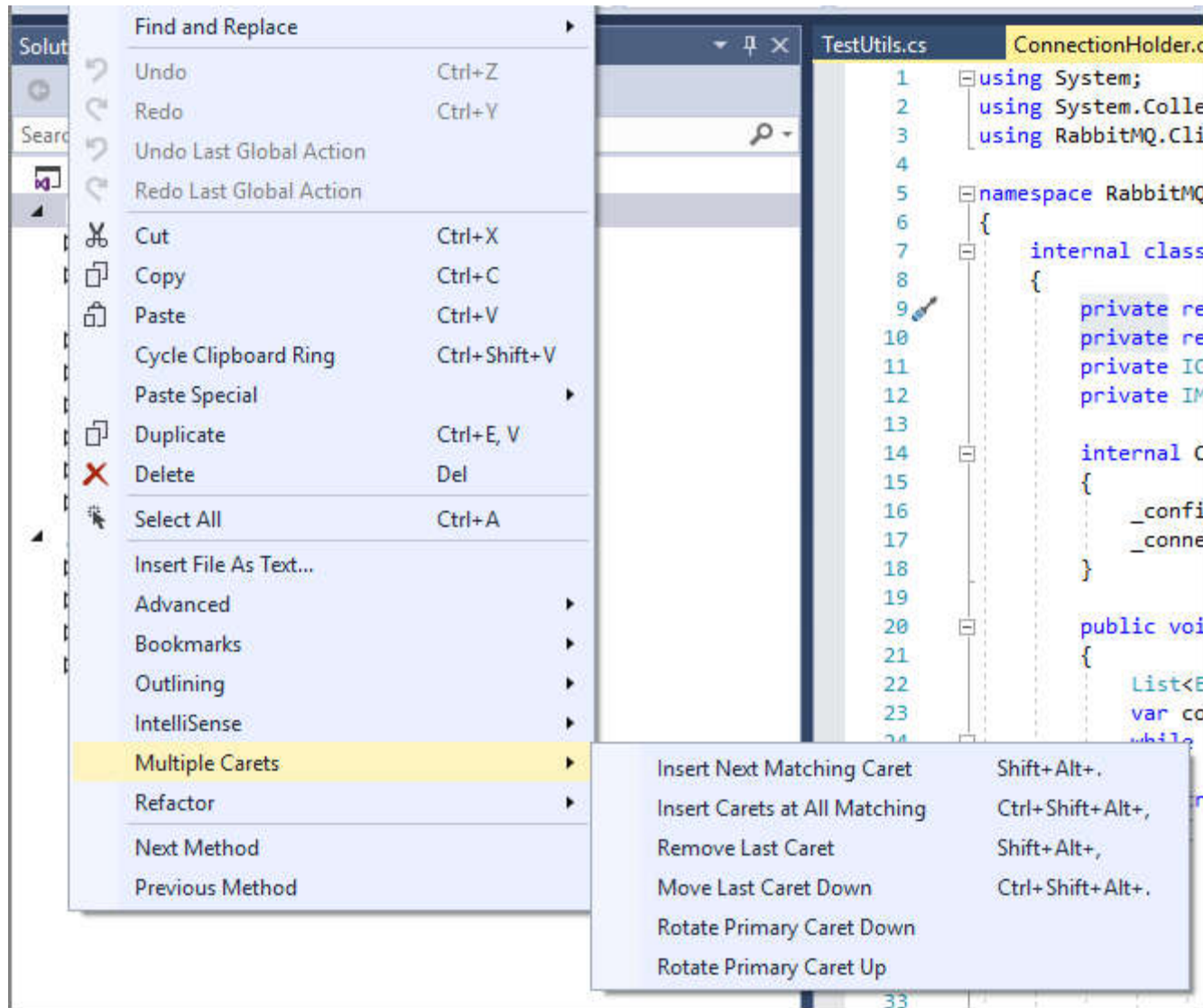
33 [Multi-caret selection](#)

▼ and here is a screenshot of available command:



 RabbitMO.Asvnc - Microsoft Visual Studio

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edited Jun 15 at 7:41

answered Aug 25 '18 at 7:47



Gian Marco Gherardi

15.6k 4 40 38

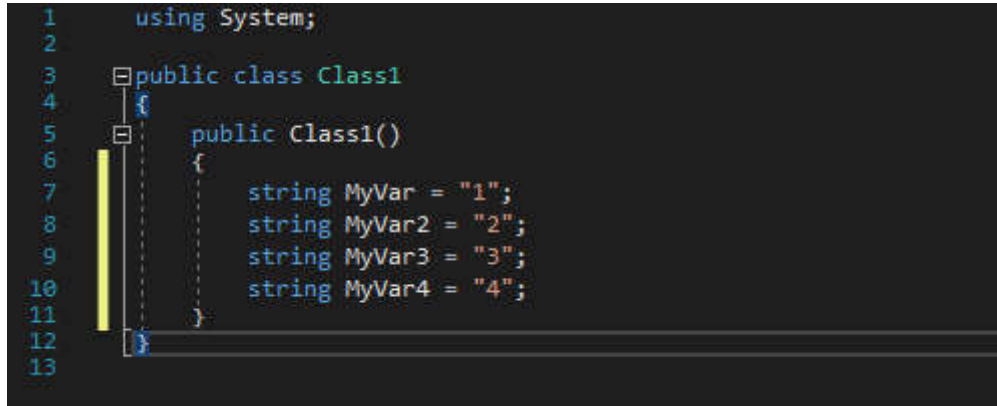
I don't see these options using 2017 ver 15.9.3 – [Urasquirrel](#) Dec 19 '18 at 17:40

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1 Link updated, thanks @brownmagik352 – [Gian Marco Gherardi](#) Jun 15 at 7:43

38

There is a new extension for Visual Studio 2017 called *SelectNextOccurrence* which is free and open-source.



This extension makes it possible to select next occurrences of a selected text for editing.

Aims to replicate the Ctrl+D command of Sublime Text for faster coding.

Features:

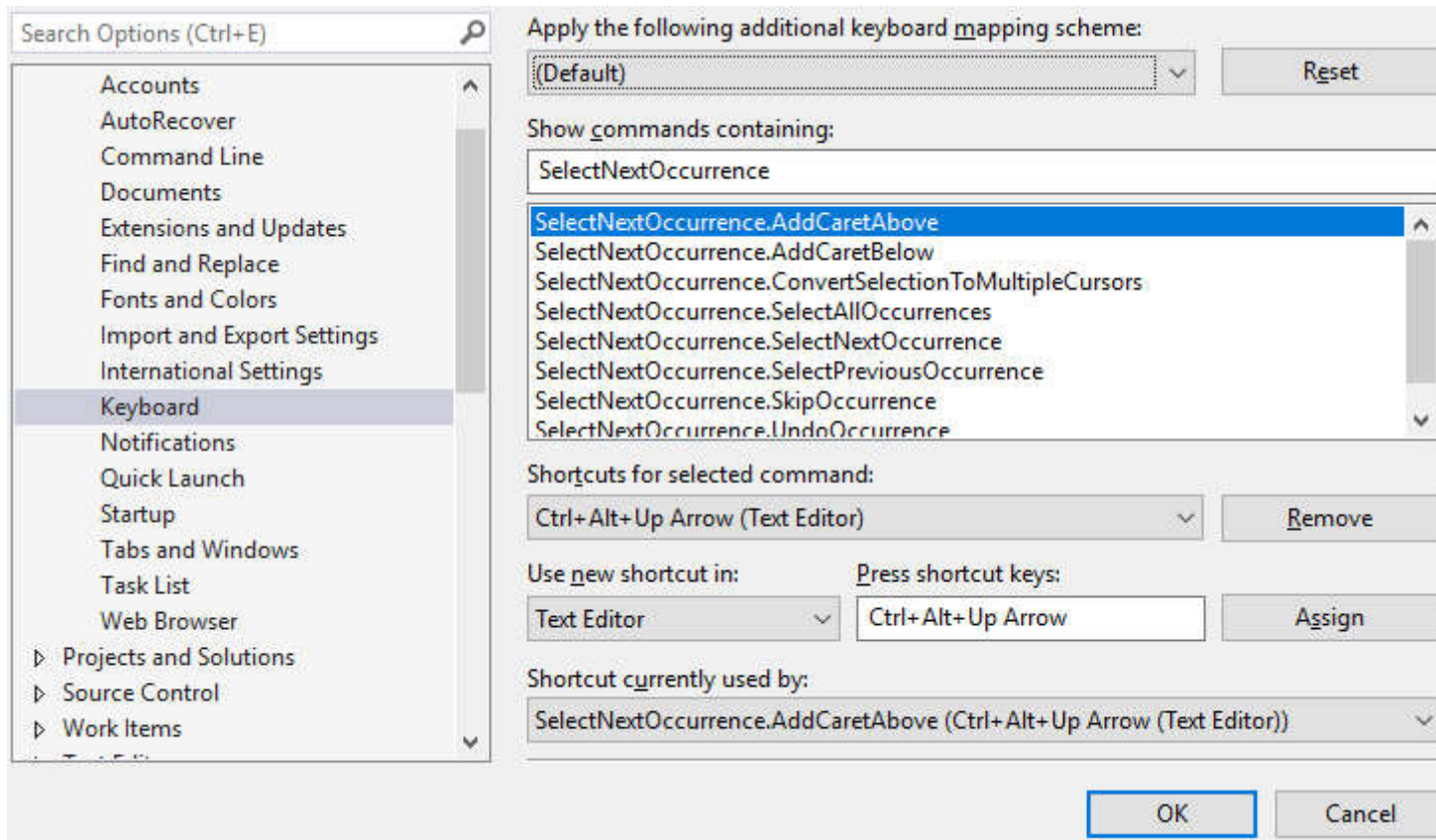
- Select next occurrence of current selection.
- Skip occurrence
- Undo occurrence
- Add caret above/below
- Use multiple carets to edit (**Alt**-click to add caret)

Visual Studio commands:

- `SelectNextOccurrence.SelectNextOccurrence` is bound to **Ctrl** + **D** by default.
- `SelectNextOccurrence.SkipOccurrence` is not bound by default. (Recommended **Ctrl** + **K**, **Ctrl** + **D**)

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- `SelectNextOccurrence.AddCaretBelow` is not bound by default. (Recommended `Ctrl` + `Alt` + `Down`)



<https://marketplace.visualstudio.com/items?itemName=thomaswelen.SelectNextOccurrence>

<https://github.com/2mas/SelectNextOccurrence>

edited Feb 14 '18 at 20:51

answered Jan 10 '18 at 10:38



Drew Noakes

195k 124 537 631

1 Perfect! This is the one. Multi selection and caret work very well. Tested with VS Community 2017. – [Dave](#) Jan 30 '18 at 4:15

1 @Dave yes this extension is great. Consider giving it a good review and/or starring the GitHub project if you find it useful. – [Drew Noakes](#) Jan 30 '18 at

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14 '18 at 13:44

Much better, thank you. – [Nick M](#) Jun 7 '18 at 3:09

Didn't work for me. welp, I don't know what I was expecting from ms. – [Bersan](#) Nov 11 '18 at 21:45 



23



[MixEdit](#) extension for Visual Studio allows you to do multiediting in the way you are describing. It supports multiple carets and multiple selections.

edited Aug 31 '18 at 12:19



[James Skemp](#)

5,142 8 49 79

answered Dec 1 '14 at 18:28




[robertojj89](#)

263 2 2

8 If you're seeking something like Sublime text, this is it! – [Kenial](#) Dec 13 '14 at 20:28

2 In case somebody is wondering, the way to achieve multi-selection in MixEdit is by double clicking on words after pressing `Alt`. The same as in MS Word, except it is `Alt` here instead of `Ctrl`. MixEdit also has a lot of other useful multi-select options. Bear in mind it's free only for evaluation! – [nawfal](#) Jun 5 '15 at 4:57

2 I can't purchase a MixEdit license anymore. Check the [website](#). Any idea how I can license it somehow and get rid of the annoying popup? – [vullnetyy](#) Mar 2 '17 at 11:57 

2 this extension is not free!! – [Diogo Cid](#) Mar 31 '17 at 13:57

5 are there any alternatives that are free or with ability to buy so you don't have to get that annoying alert ? or ability to remove it from MixEdit if there is no way to buy – [Sonic Soul](#) Apr 26 '17 at 18:06



6



Just to note,

MixEdit is not *completely* free.

"This software is currently not licensed to any user and is running in evaluation mode. MIXEDIT may be downloaded and evaluated for free, however a license must be purchased for continued use."

Upon installation and use, a popup redirects to [webpage](#) - similar to SublimeText's unlicensed software pop-up message.

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1 and now you can't even buy it. it just pops up the alert box asking for license – [Sonic Soul](#) Apr 26 '17 at 17:49

For Visual Studio Code

6 Got to this question because I was looking for a way to select multiple words with mouse click on VS Code, which should be achieved by using `alt+click`, but this keybinding wasn't working (I think it is something related to my OS, **Ubuntu**).

For anyone looking for something similar, try changing the key to `ctrl+click`.

Go to `Selection > Switch to Ctrl+Click for Multi Cursor`

edited Feb 22 '18 at 21:16



[Drew Noakes](#)

195k 124 537 631

answered Oct 12 '17 at 18:26



[jpenna](#)

909 1 10 23

You sure you are not talking about VS Code? – [nawfal](#) Oct 12 '17 at 18:30

Yes, I am... Should I delete it or just title as "for vs code"? I was looking for code when I got here – [jpenna](#) Oct 13 '17 at 16:53

1 no need to delete, will be useful for others. Just mention it in answer. – [nawfal](#) Oct 13 '17 at 17:40

Update: [MixEdit](#) extension now provides this ability.

6 [MultiEdit](#) extension for VS allows for something similar (doesn't support multiple selections as of this writing, just multiple carets)

Head over to Hanselman's for a quick animated gif of this in action: [Simultaneous Editing for Visual Studio with the free MultiEdit extension](#)

edited Aug 31 '18 at 12:20



[James Skemp](#)

answered Oct 23 '13 at 4:36



[Mrchief](#)

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2 MixEdit didn't exist when the OP posted his question. I answered to the best of my knowledge. – Mrchief Apr 21 '15 at 20:32 



6



In the Visual Studio `Shift+Alt+.` / `Shift+Alt+,`

- `Shift+Alt+.` - match caret;
- `Shift+Alt+,` - remove previous caret;

Same function as on VSCode `Ctrl+D`.

Much more setting `Tool - Options - Environment - keyboard`. Next in the `Show commands containing enter` Edit. .

Also, can use keyboard schema `Visual Studio Code`. Available for Visual Studio 2017

For conclusion, nice link [Visual Studio All keyboard shortcuts](#)

edited Jun 2 at 4:52



orad

6,180

13

54

86

answered Nov 30 '18 at 7:17



Арсений Савин

129

1

4

Thank you for your answer kind internet user. – Urasquirrel Dec 19 '18 at 17:41



5



I couldn't find anything built in, which is sad. There is this functionality in [CodeRush](#) though.

With Notepad++, this feature comes in built in. Just turn on multi-editing from

Setting > Preferences > Editing > Multi-Editing Settings

But its not as intuitive as MS Word which lets you select two words by double clicking on them (after Ctrl of course).

answered May 11 '13 at 10:41



nawfal

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4



From Visual Studio 2017 Version 15.8, **Ctrl + Alt + Click** is now supposed to be a built-in way to manage multiple carets.

<https://blogs.msdn.microsoft.com/visualstudio/2018/08/30/improving-your-productivity-in-the-visual-studio-editor/>

edited Sep 5 '18 at 15:51

answered Sep 5 '18 at 15:41



Éric Bergeron

155 3



0



Now the plugin is Multi Line tricks. The end and start buttons broke the selection.

answered Oct 29 '16 at 8:37



franca

9 1

how to install in visual studio 2015? – [Diogo Cid](#) Mar 31 '17 at 14:05