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Useful Shortcut Keys in Ubuntu

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For those shortcut key lovers out there, here is a long list of keyboard shortcuts for Ubuntu. Most of them should work in most Gnome-based distros. Enjoy the list.

General keyboard shortcuts

`Ctrl` + `A` = Select all

`Ctrl` + `C` = Copy the highlighted content to clipboard

`Ctrl` + `V` = Paste the clipboard content

`Ctrl` + `N` = New (Create a new document or new application, not in terminal)

`Ctrl` + `O` = Open a document

`Ctrl` + `S` = Save the current document

`Ctrl` + `P` = Print the current document

`Ctrl` + `W` = Close the current document

`Ctrl` + `Q` = Quit the current application

Keyboard shortcuts for GNOME desktop

`Ctrl` + `Alt` + `Delete` = Log out

`Super` + `L` = Lock the screen

`Super` + `A` = Show all applications

`Super` + `V` = Show the notification list

`Super` + `S` = Show the overview

`Ctrl` + `Alt` + `F1` = Switch to the first virtual terminal

`Ctrl` + `Alt` + `F2(F3)(F4)(F5)(F6)` = Select the different virtual terminals

`Ctrl` + `Alt` + `F7` = Restore back to the current terminal session with X

`Ctrl` + `Alt` + `Backspace` = Restart GNOME

`Alt` + `Tab` = Switch between open programs

`Ctrl` + `Alt` + `Tab` = Switch between system controls

`Ctrl` + `Alt` + `Escape` = Switch system controls directly

`Alt` + `F1` = Open the Activities overview

`Alt` + `F2` = Open the "Run Command" dialog box.

`Alt` + `F4` = Close the current window

`Alt` + `F5` = Unmaximizes the current window

`Alt` + `F7` = Move the current window

`Alt` + `F8` = Resize the current window

`Alt` + `F10` = Maximize the current window

`Alt` + `Space` = Opens the window menu

`Ctrl` + `Super` + `D` = Hide all windows/Show desktop

`Super` + `PageUp` = Move to the above workspace

`Super` + `PageDown` = Move to the below workspace

`Super` + `End` = Move to the last workspace

`Super` + `Home` = Move to the first workspace

`Shift` + `Super` + `Up/Down/Left/Right` = Move window one monitor up/down/left/right

`Shift` + `Super` + `PageUp/PageDown` = Move window one workspace up/down

`Shift` + `Super` + `End` = Move window to last workspace

`Shift` + `Super` + `Home` = Move window to first workspace

Keyboard shortcuts for Terminal

`Ctrl` + `A` = Move cursor to beginning of line

`Ctrl` + `E` = Move cursor to end of line

`Ctrl` + `C` = Kill the current process

`Ctrl` + `Z` = Suspend the current process by sending the signal SIGSTOP

`Ctrl` + `R` = Find the last command matching the entered letters

Enter a letter, followed by `Tab` + `Tab` = List the available commands beginning with those letters

`Ctrl` + `U` = Delete the current line

`Ctrl` + `K` = Delete the command from the cursor right

`Ctrl` + `W` = Delete the word before the cursor

`Ctrl` + `L` = Clears the terminal output

`Shift` + `Ctrl` + `C` = Copy the highlighted command to the clipboard

`Shift` + `Ctrl` + `V` (or `Shift` + `Insert`) = Paste the contents of the clipboard

`Alt` + `F` = Move forward one word

`Alt` + `B` = Move backward one word

`Arrow Up/Down` = Browse command history

`Shift` + `PageUp / PageDown` = Scroll terminal output

Keyboard shortcuts for Taking Screenshots

`Print` = Save a screenshot to Pictures folder

`Alt` + `Print` = Save a screenshot of a window to Pictures folder

`Shift` + `Print` = Save a screenshot of an area to Pictures folder

`Ctrl` + `Alt` + `Print` = Copy a screenshot of a window to clipboard

`Shift` + `Ctrl` + `Print` = Copy a screenshot of an area to clipboard

`Ctrl` + `Print` = Copy a screenshot to clipboard

`Shift` + `Ctrl` + `Alt` + `R` = Start screencast recording

Keyboard shortcut for Files/Nautilus

`Ctrl` + `?/F1` = Open the Keyboard Shortcut window

`Shift` + `Ctrl` + `N` = Create New Folder

`Delete` = Move selected files/folders to Trash

`Shift` + `Delete` = Delete selected files/folders permanently

`Ctrl` + `T` = Open a new tab

`Ctrl` + `PageUp` = Go to previous tab

`Ctrl` + `PageDown` = Go to next tab

`Shift` + `Ctrl` + `PageUp` = Move tab left

`Shift` + `Ctrl` + `PageDown` = Move tab right

`Shift` + `Ctrl` + `T` = Restore closed tab

`Alt` + `0 . . . . 8` = Go to the specified tab

`Ctrl` + `ENTER` = Open the selected folder in a new tab

`Shift` + `ENTER` = Open the selected folder in a new window

`Alt` + `ENTER` = Show File/Folder Properties

`Ctrl` + `1` = Toggle View As List

`Ctrl` + `2` = Toggle View As Grid

`Ctrl` + `S` = Select Pattern

`F2` = Rename File

`Ctrl` + `A` = Select all files and folders

`Ctrl` + `F` = Search

`Ctrl` + `D` = Bookmark current location

`Ctrl` + `W` = Close Window

`Ctrl` + `O` or `Enter` = Open selected file/folder

`Ctrl` + `R` = Reload Window

`Alt` + `Up` = Open parent directory

`Alt` + `Left` = Back

`Alt` + `Right` = Forward

`Alt` + `Home` = Go to Home folder

`Ctrl` + `L` = Show/go to location bar

`/` = Show/go to location bar with root location

`~` = Show/go to location bar with Home location

`Ctrl` + `H` = Show Hidden Files

`Ctrl` + `+` = Zoom In

`Ctrl` + `-` = Zoom Out

`Ctrl` + `0` = Normal Size

`Shift` + `Ctrl` + `Down` = Open selected file and close window

`Alt` + `Down` = Open selected file with default application

`F9` = Show/hide sidepane

`F10` = Show/hide action menu

For those who want to configure your own keyboard shortcuts, you can do so at "Settings -> Devices -> Keyboard."

Which ones are your favorite keyboard shortcuts? Are there anymore shortcuts that I left out? Let me know in the comments, and I will add them in.

This article was first published in July 2008 and was updated in May 2018.

Is this article useful?   Yes   No