

Keyboard shortcuts in Windows

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Windows 10 ▾


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Keyboard shortcuts are keys or combinations of keys that provide an alternative way to do something that you'd typically do with a mouse.

Additional keyboard shortcuts

- [Keyboard shortcuts in apps](#)
- [Windows keyboard shortcuts for accessibility](#)
- [Microsoft Surface Hub keyboard shortcuts](#)
- [Keyboard shortcuts in Continuum for phones](#)

Copy, paste, and other general keyboard shortcuts

Press this key	To do this
Ctrl + X	Cut the selected item
Ctrl + C (or Ctrl + Insert)	Copy the selected item
Ctrl + V (or Shift + Insert)	Paste the selected item
Ctrl + Z	Undo an action
Alt + Tab	Switch between open apps
Alt + F4	Close the active item, or exit the active app
Windows logo key  + L	Lock your PC

Windows logo key  + D	Display and hide the desktop
F2	Rename the selected item
F3	Search for a file or folder in File Explorer
F4	Display the address bar list in File Explorer
F5	Refresh the active window
F6	Cycle through screen elements in a window or on the desktop
F10	Activate the Menu bar in the active app
Alt + F8	Show your password on the sign-in screen
Alt + Esc	Cycle through items in the order in which they were opened
Alt + underlined letter	Perform the command for that letter
Alt + Enter	Display properties for the selected item
Alt + Spacebar	Open the shortcut menu for the active window
Alt + Left arrow	Go back
Alt + Right arrow	Go forward
Alt + Page Up	Move up one screen
Alt + Page Down	Move down one screen
Ctrl + F4	Close the active document (in apps that are full-screen and let you have multiple documents open at the same time)
Ctrl + A	Select all items in a document or window
Ctrl + D (or Delete)	Delete the selected item and move it to the Recycle Bin
Ctrl + R (or F5)	Refresh the active window
Ctrl + Y	Redo an action
Ctrl + Right arrow	Move the cursor to the beginning of the next word

Ctrl + Left arrow	Move the cursor to the beginning of the previous word
Ctrl + Down arrow	Move the cursor to the beginning of the next paragraph
Ctrl + Up arrow	Move the cursor to the beginning of the previous paragraph
Ctrl + Alt + Tab	Use the arrow keys to switch between all open apps
Ctrl + Alt + Shift + arrow keys	When a group or tile is in focus on the Start menu, move it in the direction specified
Ctrl + arrow key (to move to an item) + Spacebar	Select multiple individual items in a window or on the desktop
Ctrl + Shift with an arrow key	Select a block of text
Ctrl + Esc	Open Start
Ctrl + Shift + Esc	Open Task Manager
Ctrl + Shift	Switch the keyboard layout when multiple keyboard layouts are available
Ctrl + Spacebar	Turn the Chinese input method editor (IME) on or off
Shift + F10	Display the shortcut menu for the selected item
Shift with any arrow key	Select more than one item in a window or on the desktop, or select text in a document
Shift + Delete	Delete the selected item without moving it to the Recycle Bin first
Right arrow	Open the next menu to the right, or open a submenu
Left arrow	Open the next menu to the left, or close a submenu
Esc	Stop or leave the current task

Windows logo key keyboard shortcuts

Press this key

To do this

Windows logo
key 

Open or close Start

Windows logo
key  + A

Open Action center



Windows logo
key  + B


Set focus in the notification area

Windows logo
key  + C

Open Cortana in listening mode

Notes

- This shortcut is turned off by default. To turn it on, select **Start**  > **Settings**  > **Cortana**, and turn on the toggle under **Let Cortana listen for my commands when I press the Windows logo key + C**.
- Cortana is available only in certain countries/regions, and some Cortana features might not be available everywhere. If Cortana isn't available or is turned off, you can still use [search](#).

Windows logo
key  + Shift +
C


Open the charms menu

Windows logo
key  + D

Display and hide the desktop

Windows logo
key  + Alt + D

Display and hide the date and time on the desktop

Windows logo
key  + E

Open File Explorer

Windows logo
key  + F

Open Feedback Hub and take a screenshot

Windows logo
key  + G

Open Game bar when a game is open

Windows logo
key  + H

Start dictation

Windows logo

Open Settings

key  + I

Windows logo
key  + J

Set focus to a Windows tip when one is available.

When a Windows tip appears, bring focus to the Tip. Pressing the keyboard shortcuts again to bring focus to the element on the screen to which the Windows tip is anchored.

Windows logo
key  + K

Open the Connect quick action

Windows logo
key  + L

Lock your PC or switch accounts

Windows logo
key  + M

Minimize all windows

Windows logo
key  + O

Lock device orientation

Windows logo
key  + P

Choose a presentation display mode

Windows logo
key  + R

Open the Run dialog box

Windows logo
key  + S

Open search

Windows logo
key  + T


Cycle through apps on the taskbar

Windows logo
key  + U

Open Ease of Access Center

Windows logo
key  + V

Cycle through notifications

Windows logo
key  + Shift +
V













Cycle through notifications in reverse order

Windows logo
key  + X

Open the Quick Link menu

Windows logo
key  + Y

Switch input between Windows Mixed Reality and your desktop

Windows logo key  + Z	Show the commands available in an app in full-screen mode
Windows logo key  + period (.) or semicolon (;)	Open emoji panel
Windows logo key  + comma (,)	Temporarily peek at the desktop
Windows logo key  + Pause	Display the System Properties dialog box
Windows logo key  + Ctrl + F	Search for PCs (if you're on a network)
Windows logo key  + Shift + M	Restore minimized windows on the desktop
Windows logo key  + number	Open the desktop and start the app pinned to the taskbar in the position indicated by the number. If the app is already running, switch to that app.
Windows logo key  + Shift + number	Open the desktop and start a new instance of the app pinned to the taskbar in the position indicated by the number
Windows logo key  + Ctrl + number	Open the desktop and switch to the last active window of the app pinned to the taskbar in the position indicated by the number
Windows logo key  + Alt + number	Open the desktop and open the Jump List for the app pinned to the taskbar in the position indicated by the number
Windows logo key  + Ctrl + Shift + number	Open the desktop and open a new instance of the app located at the given position on the taskbar as an administrator
Windows logo key  + Tab	Open Task view
Windows logo	Maximize the window

key  + Up
arrow

Windows logo
key  + Down
arrow

Remove current app from screen or minimize the desktop window

Windows logo
key  + Left
arrow


Maximize the app or desktop window to the left side of the screen

Windows logo
key  + Right
arrow


Maximize the app or desktop window to the right side of the screen

Windows logo
key  + Home


Minimize all except the active desktop window (restores all windows on second stroke)

Windows logo
key  + Shift +
Up arrow

Stretch the desktop window to the top and bottom of the screen

Windows logo
key  + Shift +
Down arrow

Restore/minimize active desktop windows vertically, maintaining width

Windows logo
key  + Shift +
Left arrow or
Right arrow

Move an app or window in the desktop from one monitor to another

Windows logo
key  +
Spacebar


Switch input language and keyboard layout

Windows logo
key  + Ctrl +
Spacebar

Change to a previously selected input

Windows logo
key  + Ctrl +
Enter

Open Narrator

Windows logo
key  + forward
slash (/)

Begin IME reversion

Command Prompt keyboard shortcuts

Press this key	To do this
Ctrl + C (or Ctrl + Insert)	Copy the selected text
Ctrl + V (or Shift + Insert)	Paste the selected text
Ctrl + M	Enter Mark mode
Alt + selection key	Begin selection in block mode
Arrow keys	Move the cursor in the direction specified
Page up	Move the cursor by one page up
Page down	Move the cursor by one page down
Ctrl + Home (Mark mode)	Move the cursor to the beginning of the buffer
Ctrl + End (Mark mode)	Move the cursor to the end of the buffer
Ctrl + Up arrow	Move up one line in the output history
Ctrl + Down arrow	Move down one line in the output history
Ctrl + Home (History navigation)	If the command line is empty, move the viewport to the top of the buffer. Otherwise, delete all the characters to the left of the cursor in the command line.
Ctrl + End (History navigation)	If the command line is empty, move the viewport to the command line. Otherwise, delete all the characters to the right of the cursor in the command line.

Dialog box keyboard shortcuts






Press this key	To do this
F4	Display the items in the active list
Ctrl + Tab	Move forward through tabs
Ctrl + Shift + Tab	Move back through tabs
Ctrl + number (number 1–9)	Move to nth tab
Tab	Move forward through options
Shift + Tab	Move back through options
Alt + underlined letter	Perform the command (or select the option) that is used with that letter
Spacebar	Select or clear the check box if the active option is a check box
Backspace	Open a folder one level up if a folder is selected in the Save As or Open dialog box
Arrow keys	Select a button if the active option is a group of option buttons

File Explorer keyboard shortcuts

Press this key	To do this
Alt + D	Select the address bar
Ctrl + E	Select the search box
Ctrl + F	Select the search box
Ctrl + N	Open a new window

Ctrl + W	Close the active window
Ctrl + mouse scroll wheel	Change the size and appearance of file and folder icons
Ctrl + Shift + E	Display all folders above the selected folder
Ctrl + Shift + N	Create a new folder
Num Lock + asterisk (*)	Display all subfolders under the selected folder
Num Lock + plus (+)	Display the contents of the selected folder
Num Lock + minus (-)	Collapse the selected folder
Alt + P	Display the preview panel
Alt + Enter	Open the Properties dialog box for the selected item
Alt + Right arrow	View the next folder
Alt + Up arrow	View the folder that the folder was in
Alt + Left arrow	View the previous folder
Backspace	View the previous folder
Right arrow	Display the current selection (if it's collapsed), or select the first subfolder
Left arrow	Collapse the current selection (if it's expanded), or select the folder that the folder was in
End	Display the bottom of the active window
Home	Display the top of the active window
F11	Maximize or minimize the active window


Virtual desktops keyboard shortcuts

Press this key	To do this
Windows logo key  + Tab	Open Task view
Windows logo key  + Ctrl + D	Add a virtual desktop
Windows logo key  + Ctrl + Right arrow	Switch between virtual desktops you've created on the right
Windows logo key  + Ctrl + Left arrow	Switch between virtual desktops you've created on the left
Windows logo key  + Ctrl + F4	Close the virtual desktop you're using

Taskbar keyboard shortcuts

Press this key	To do this
Shift + click a taskbar button	Open an app or quickly open another instance of an app
Ctrl + Shift + click a taskbar button	Open an app as an administrator
Shift + right-click a taskbar button	Show the window menu for the app
Shift + right-click a grouped taskbar button	Show the window menu for the group
Ctrl + click a grouped taskbar button	Cycle through the windows of the group

Settings keyboard shortcuts

Press this key	To do this
Windows logo key  + I	Open settings