You'd think setting up your content in Photoshop would be second nature. But sometimes, the shortcuts to change the background size, or zoom into your project aren't what you think. Here are some of the most crucial fundamental shortcuts to know:

1) **Control + Alt + i** (*Command + Option + i*) = Change the image size.
2) **Control + Alt + c** (*Command + Option + c*) = Change canvas size.
3) **Control + +** (*Command + +*) = Zoom in.
4) **Control + -** (*Command + -*) = Zoom out.
Control + ' (*Command + '*) = Show or hide the $grid$, the automatically-generated horizontal and vertical lines that help align objects to the canvas.

Choosing the Right Tools

These shortcuts will activate different groups of tools, like "Lasso," "Brush," or "Spot Healing Brush." Within these tools, though, there are different functions. Under the "Magic Wand" tool group, for example, you have the option to execute a new selection or add and subtract from a current one.

Each one of these tools has a keyboard shortcut, and we've outlined some of them below.

5) **v** = Pointer, a.k.a. Move Tool

6) **w** = Magic Wand

7) **m** = Rectangular Marquee, a.k.a. the Select Tool

8) **l** = Lasso

9) **i** = Eyedropper

10) **c** = Crop

11) **e** = Eraser

12) **u** = Rectangle

13) **t** = Horizontal Type

14) **b** = Brush

15) **y** = History Brush

16) **j** = Spot Healing Brush

17) **g** = Gradient

18) **a** = Path Selection

19) **h** = Hand

20) **r** = Rotate View

21) **p** = Pen

22) **s** = Clone Stamp

23) **o** = Dodge

24) **z** = Zoom Tool

25) **d** = Default Foreground and Background Colors

26) **x** = Switch Foreground and Background Colors

27) **q** = Edit in Quick Mask Mode

28) **x** = Change Screen Mode

Using the Brush Tool

With the brush settings, you can change the size, shape, and transparency of your brush strokes to achieve a number of different visual effects. To use these keyboard shortcuts, first select the Brush tool by pressing **b.**

29) **,** or **.** = Select previous or next brush style.

30) **Shift + ,** or **.** = Select first or last brush style used.

31) **Caps Lock or Shift + Caps Lock** *(Caps Lock)* = Display precise crosshair for brushes.

32) **Shift + Alt + p** *(Shift + Option + p)* = Toggle airbrush option.

Using the Marquee Tool (for Slicing/Selecting)

When used correctly, the marquee tool will let you select individual elements, entire graphics, and determine what is copied, cut, and pasted into your graphics.

To use these keyboard shortcuts, first select the Marquee tool by pressing **m.**

33) **Control** *(Command)* = Toggle between Slice tool and Slice Selection tool.

34) **Shift + drag** = Draw square slice.

35) **Alt + drag** *(Option + drag)* = Draw from center outward.

36) **Shift + alt + drag** *(Shift + option + drag)* = Draw square slice from center outward.

37) **Spacebar + drag** = Reposition the slice while creating the slice.

Using Different Blending Options

Blending options include a number of features to enhance the look of your graphic. You can always choose a blending option by going to the top menu bar, under **Layer > Layer Style > Blending Options.** Or, you can double-click any layer to bring up the options for that particular layer.

Once you open blending options, you can use keyboard shortcuts to select them without moving your mouse. To use the shortcuts, select the Move

tool ("**v**"), and then select the layer you'd like to use the blending options on. Below are some of the most popular modes.

38) Shift + + or – = Cycle through blending modes.
39) Shift + Alt + n *(Shift + Option + n)* = Normal mode
40) Shift + Alt + i *(Shift + Option + i)* = Dissolve
41) Shift + Alt + k *(Shift + Option + k)* = Darken
42) Shift + Alt + g *(Shift + Option + g)* = Lighten
43) Shift + Alt + m *(Shift + Option + m)* = Multiply
44) Shift + Alt + o *(Shift + Option + o)* = Overlay
45) Shift + Alt + u *(Shift + Option + u)* = Hue
46) Shift + Alt + t *(Shift + Option + t)* = Saturation
47) Shift + Alt + y *(Shift + Option + y)* = Luminosity
For more niche blending shortcuts, check out these tips from Adobe.

Manipulating Layers & Objects

If you want to modify an object or get complex with multiple layers, here are some shortcuts you might like to know:

48) Control + a *(Command + a)* = Select all objects
49) Control + d *(Command + d)* = Deselect all objects
50) Shift + Control + i *(Shift + Command + i)* = Select the inverse of the selected objects
51) Control + Alt + a *(Command + Option + a)* = Select all layers
52) Control + Shift + E *(Command + Shift + e)* = Merge all layers
53) Alt + . *(Option + .)* = Select top layer
54) Alt + , *(Option + ,)* = Select bottom layer
Note: In shortcuts 55-57, the brackets (**[ ]**) are the keystrokes in the command, and "OR" refers to the actual word -- as in, press one bracket OR the other, not the letters "o" and "r."
55) Alt + [OR] *(Option + [OR])* = Select next layer down or up
56) Control + [OR] *(Command + [OR])* = Move target layer down or up
57) Control + Shift + [OR] *(Command + Shift + [OR])* = Move layer to the bottom or top
58) Shift + Control + n *(Shift + Command + n)* = Create a new layer
59) Control + g *(Command + g)* = Group selected layers
60) Control + Shift + g *(Command + Shift + g)* = Ungroup selected layers
61) Control + e *(Command + e)* = Merge and flatten selected layers
62) Control + Shift + Alt + e *(Command + Shift + Option + e)* = Combine all layers into a new layer *on top of* the other layers. Note: This step gets you one, combined layer, with all elements of that layer in separate layers below -- which is different than a traditional merge-and-flatten layers command.
63) Control + t *(Command + t)* = Transform your object, which includes resizing and rotating

And Finally -- Save Your Work for Later

Congratulations -- you've finished working on your project, and now, you want to share it with the world. Save time saving your project by using these simple shortcuts:

64) Control + Shift + s *(Command + Shift + s)* = Save your work as ...
65) Control + Shift + Alt + s *(Command + Shift + Option + s)* = Save for web and devices