[MohamedAlaa](#) / **tmux-cheatsheet.markdown**

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tmux shortcuts & cheatsheet

<> `tmux-cheatsheet.markdown`

tmux shortcuts & cheatsheet

start new:

```
tmux
```

start new with session name:

```
tmux new -s myname
```

attach:

```
tmux a  #  (or at, or attach)
```

attach to named:

```
tmux a -t myname
```

list sessions:

```
tmux ls
```

kill session:

```
tmux kill-session -t myname
```

Kill all the tmux sessions:

```
tmux ls | grep : | cut -d. -f1 | awk '{print substr($1, 0,
length($1)-1)}' | xargs kill
```

In tmux, hit the prefix `ctrl+b` (my modified prefix is ctrl+a) and then:

List all shortcuts

to see all the shortcuts keys in tmux simply use the `bind-key ?` in my case that would
be `CTRL-B ?`

Sessions

```
:new<CR>  new session
s  list sessions
$  name session
```

Windows (tabs)

```
c  create window
w  list windows
n  next window
p  previous window
f  find window
,  name window
&  kill window
```

Panes (splits)

```
%  vertical split
"  horizontal split

o  swap panes
q  show pane numbers
x  kill pane
```

```
  +  break pane into window (e.g. to select text by mouse to copy)
  -  restore pane from window
  ⎵  space - toggle between layouts
  <prefix> q (Show pane numbers, when the numbers show up type the key to
  goto that pane)
  <prefix> { (Move the current pane left)
  <prefix> } (Move the current pane right)
  <prefix> z toggle pane zoom
```

Sync Panes

You can do this by switching to the appropriate window, typing your Tmux prefix
(commonly Ctrl-B or Ctrl-A) and then a colon to bring up a Tmux command line, and
typing:

```
  :setw synchronize-panes
```

You can optionally add on or off to specify which state you want; otherwise the option is
simply toggled. This option is specific to one window, so it won't change the way your
other sessions or windows operate. When you're done, toggle it off again by repeating
the command. tip source

Resizing Panes

You can also resize panes if you don't like the layout defaults. I personally rarely need to
do this, though it's handy to know how. Here is the basic syntax to resize panes:

```
  PREFIX : resize-pane -D (Resizes the current pane down)
  PREFIX : resize-pane -U (Resizes the current pane upward)
  PREFIX : resize-pane -L (Resizes the current pane left)
  PREFIX : resize-pane -R (Resizes the current pane right)
  PREFIX : resize-pane -D 20 (Resizes the current pane down by 20 cells)
  PREFIX : resize-pane -U 20 (Resizes the current pane upward by 20 cells)
  PREFIX : resize-pane -L 20 (Resizes the current pane left by 20 cells)
  PREFIX : resize-pane -R 20 (Resizes the current pane right by 20 cells)
  PREFIX : resize-pane -t 2 20 (Resizes the pane with the id of 2 down by
  20 cells)
  PREFIX : resize-pane -t -L 20 (Resizes the pane with the id of 2 left by
  20 cells)
```

Copy mode:

Pressing PREFIX [places us in Copy mode. We can then use our movement keys to move our cursor around the screen. By default, the arrow keys work. we set our configuration file to use Vim keys for moving between windows and resizing panes so we wouldn't have to take our hands off the home row. tmux has a vi mode for working with the buffer as well. To enable it, add this line to .tmux.conf:

```
setw -g mode-keys vi
```

With this option set, we can use h, j, k, and l to move around our buffer.

To get out of Copy mode, we just press the ENTER key. Moving around one character at a time isn't very efficient. Since we enabled vi mode, we can also use some other visible shortcuts to move around the buffer.

For example, we can use "w" to jump to the next word and "b" to jump back one word. And we can use "f", followed by any character, to jump to that character on the same line, and "F" to jump backwards on the line.

Function	vi	emacs
Back to indentation	^	M-m
Clear selection	Escape	C-g
Copy selection	Enter	M-w
Cursor down	j	Down
Cursor left	h	Left
Cursor right	l	Right
Cursor to bottom line	L	
Cursor to middle line	M	M-r
Cursor to top line	H	M-R
Cursor up	k	Up
Delete entire line	d	C-u
Delete to end of line	D	C-k
End of line	$	C-e
Goto line	:	g
Half page down	C-d	M-Down
Half page up	C-u	M-Up
Next page	C-f	Page down
Next word	w	M-f
Paste buffer	p	C-y
Previous page	C-b	Page up
Previous word	b	M-b
Quit mode	q	Escape
Scroll down	C-Down or J	C-Down
Scroll up	C-Up or K	C-Up
Search again	n	n
Search backward	?	C-r

```
    Search forward           /                C-s
    Start of line            0                C-a
    Start selection          Space            C-Space
    Transpose chars                           C-t
```

Misc

```
d  detach
t  big clock
?  list shortcuts
:  prompt
```

Configurations Options:

```
# Mouse support — set to on if you want to use the mouse
* setw -g mode-mouse off
* set -g mouse-select-pane off
* set -g mouse-resize-pane off
* set -g mouse-select-window off

# Set the default terminal mode to 256color mode
set -g default-terminal "screen-256color"

# enable activity alerts
setw -g monitor-activity on
set -g visual-activity on

# Center the window list
set -g status-justify centre

# Maximize and restore a pane
unbind Up bind Up new-window -d -n tmp \; swap-pane -s tmp.1 \; select-
window -t tmp
unbind Down
bind Down last-window \; swap-pane -s tmp.1 \; kill-window -t tmp
```

Resources:

- [tmux: Productive Mouse-Free Development](#)
- [How to reorder windows](#)

Notes:

-

Changelog:

- 1411143833002 - Added toggle zoom under Panes (splits) section.
- 1411143833002 - Added Sync Panes
- 1414276652677 - Added Kill all tmux sessions
- 1438585211173 - corrected create and add next and previus thanks to @justinjhendrick

Request an Update:

We Noticed that our Cheatsheet is growing and people are coloberating to add new tips and tricks, so please tweet to me what would you like to add and let's make it better!

- Twitter: @MohammedAlaa

Load earlier comments...

AdamDanischew... commented on Sep 18, 2019

> **@dwiwardana** I still don't understand how to resize panes. The default prefix is C-b, then what?
>
> " PREFIX : resize-pane -R (Resizes the current pane right) " , I don't get it. Can anyone help? :)
>
> that's mean press CTRL+b at same time

An easy convenient way to **resize** windows is to hold down **Ctl+b** and use the **arrows** (continue holding Ctl+b).

RichardBronosky commented on Oct 30, 2019

I didn't know that instead of typing `attach` I could just use `a` . That's great since my standard way of launching is [now shorter]:

```
tmux a||tmux
```

georgidimov commented on Nov 11, 2019

Swap windows:

```
PREFIX : swap-window [-s src-window] [-t dst-window], e.g. swap-window -s 2 -t 3
```

tambow44 commented on Nov 19, 2019

For those who made it this far down, from v1.8~ or so the default to resize panes:

PREFIX (default: `ctrl+b`) + `ctrl+arrow`

zori commented on Nov 27, 2019

Does anyone know if the search syntax supports any kind of regular expressions? I'm trying to search for word boundary, or end of line. vim regex syntax / PCRE doesn't seem to work.

Coderx7 commented on Jan 11, 2020

Thanks everyone.
Here's my two cents
For mouse support, there have been a change, after 2015, you should be able to enable mouse simply by press `Ctrl+b` + :
and enter

```
set -g mouse on
```

Also for resizing panes , as **@AdamDanischewski** said, its much easier to hold Ctrl+b and an arrow key (if you want up, hold Ctrl+b and ↑ , if you want down hold Ctrl+b and ↓ .)

kajukenbo commented on Mar 11, 2020

When you are in a tmux session with someone else's config and want to know what is going on:

```
$ tmux show-options -g | grep -E 'prefix|keys'
```
prefix C-b
prefix2 None
status-keys emacs

Then of course you can use

```
<prefix>+?
```

To dump everything

eduardosramos commented on Apr 11, 2020

Obrigado!

RakibFiha commented on May 3, 2020

To resize a pane: On mac: Ctrl+B and then keep option pressed while hitting an arrow key as many times works out of the box.

---

chubin commented on May 7, 2020

Great cheat sheet. I've added it to cheat.sh

```
curl cheat.sh/tmux
```

ValerioB88 commented on May 28, 2020

To close all tmux sessions I use:
```
 tmux kill-session
```

JamesOwers commented on Jun 22, 2020 • edited ▾

Cheers. I recommend adding under sessions:

```
   ...
   )  switch to next session
   (  switch to previous session
```

i.e. adding `ctrl+b  )` . Very handy for session navigation.

Apo45ty commented on Aug 10, 2020

Thanks This is awesome !

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rpresser commented on Sep 8, 2020

Is it possible to set it so that I can use `ctrl+b` followed by vi keys (hjkl) to move among open panes? I.e., instead of `ctrl-b` `UP` I would use `ctrl-b` `k`?

---

craigforr commented on Sep 8, 2020

> Is it possible to set it so that I can use `ctrl+b` followed by vi keys (hjkl) to move among open panes? I.e., instead of `ctrl-b` `UP` I would use `ctrl-b` `k`?

That's been [answered on Stack Overflow](#):

```
bind h select-pane -L
bind j select-pane -D
bind k select-pane -U
bind l select-pane -R
```

---

silvanob commented on Nov 16, 2020

http://pragprog.com/book/bhtmux/tmux is dead.

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rpresser commented on Nov 16, 2020 • edited ▾

@smbiemans See the [tmux 2 version](#).

---

iamMHZ commented on Jan 11, 2021

Thank you for this fantastic cheatsheet.

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khatchad commented on Jan 11, 2021

> **@MohamedAlaa** I believe **@ravoori** is correct. It should be like this instead:
>
> ## Panes (splits)
>
> ```
>   o     switch to next pane
>   C-o  swap panes
> ```
>
> It's easy to confuse these because if you accidentally keep holding control down from doing your prefix then you'll be doing swap instead of next.

I just did that!

xd003 commented on Mar 1, 2021

For Killing all the tmux sessions , instead of that long command. You can simply use - `tmux kill-server`

thomas-repo commented on Apr 1, 2021 • edited ▾

Hi, I would like to rebind the command
prefix : to become prefix ;
I want to mimic the binding from my vim-config **nnoremap ; :**
so i can enter command-mode with one less keystroke

Thank you in advance, Thomas

lifeModder19135 commented on Aug 10, 2021 • edited ▾

Sex@ehellman For any command starting with a colon: it is referencing the tmux command system. if you type MOD ([ctrl] + [b]) followed by
[:] (in other words, control b then colon) then you enter tmux command mode, which is just like vi command mode. For actions like resize which have built-in keybindings, however, the command is a waste of time. The keybind for resize seems clumsy until you discover that you only need to hit the mod keys once(so long as you do it quickly). TRY THIS: Easiest way to resize or navigate panes within current window:

-- RESIZE --

Note: for the following, let `$MOD` equal { `Ctrl + b` } and let direction spelled in caps (e.g. `DOWN` , `LEFT` , etc.) equal that arrow key.

1.) Know which direction you are resizing beforehand, because you cannot pause or the key combo is ended. You'll see what I mean once you try it.
YOU CAN RESIZE IN TWO DIRECTIONS WITH 1 KEYCOMBO, SO LONG AS THE DIRECTION ARE NOT EXACT OPPOSITES OF EACH OTHER.
2.) For whatever direction you are resizing, start by doing the regular keyboard shortcut using arrows (`$MOD` then { `Ctrl` + (`UP` || `DOWN` || `LEFT` || `RIGHT`)}) but DO NOT LET UP FROM `CTRL` .
3.) Now, just keep tapping `ARROW` key (still holding control key) until the border is where you want it.

EXAMPLE: to enlarge upper left pane, while cursor is within that pane:

- With your left pinky, **hold** `[left ctrl]` and keep it down until directions say to let up.
- with your left index finger, tap `[ b ]`
- with your right hand, type any combination of arrow keys fairly quickly and without stopping

- youll see the display updating in time with your keystrokes. let off ctrl when done. XD
- Navigation si the same thing, but you release `[ctrl]` as soon as `[ b ]` is pressed, before hitting arrows.
- As I said, it helps to map out exactly which keys youll need, and their exact order, before starting.

Sorry if you already knew this. I stumbled onto it by accident. When I was learning, this wasn't written on any of the cheat sheets. Anyway, for a long time, I would plant the pinky and type (b, arrow, b, arrow, b, arrow) as quickly as I could. It got annoying after a while.

---

wsqyouth commented on Aug 24, 2021

very cool! espacially the bellow questions and solutions

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djsnipa1 commented on Oct 1, 2021

> **@ehellman** The keybind for resize seems clumsy until you discover that you only need to hit the mod keys once(so long as you do it quickly).

Awesome tip! Should be in the main gist unless (unless I skimmed over it).

Thank you everybody for the cheat sheet!

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mem- commented on Dec 6, 2021 • edited ▾

@MohamedAlaa, I think this is a typo;

```
--- tmux-cheatsheet.markdown     2021-12-06 11:36:10.570568266 +0100
+++ tmux-cheatsheet.markdown.new          2021-12-06 11:36:41.166902407 +0100
@@ -89,7 +89,7 @@
     PREFIX : resize-pane -L 20 (Resizes the current pane left by 20 cells)
     PREFIX : resize-pane -R 20 (Resizes the current pane right by 20 cells)
     PREFIX : resize-pane -t 2 20 (Resizes the pane with the id of 2 down by 20 cells)
-    PREFIX : resize-pane -t -L 20 (Resizes the pane with the id of 2 left by 20 cells)
+    PREFIX : resize-pane -t 2 -L 20 (Resizes the pane with the id of 2 left by 20
cells)
```

Regards,
// mem

---

earendildev commented on Dec 8, 2021

Would need to make it known that if using gpakosz /.tmux = **Oh-My-Tmux** , that you need to edit the **.tmux.conf.local** file - *to add configurations* - and not touch the **.tmux.conf**

Reference

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yuis-ice commented on Feb 1

This doc helped me a lot thus far. Thank you mate.

---

njfamirm commented on Mar 27

awesome 🌹

---

jiayaozhang commented on Jun 15

for me three commands
1 ctrl b %
3. tmux ls
2. ctrl b : set -g mouse on

---

verhovsky commented 9 days ago • edited ▾

```
    Previous page            C−b            Page up
```

should be

```
    Previous page            C−b C−b        Page up
```

At least when you have the default prefix?