

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard shortcuts with Windows logo key

Keyboard Shortcut	Action
Win key	Toggle the Start Menu.
Win + A	Open Quick Settings.
Win + B	Set focus for the Show hidden icons dropdown menu.
Win + C	Open Microsoft Teams Chat.
Win + Ctrl + C	Toggle the Color Filters (you have to <u>enable this shortcut first in Color Filter settings</u>).
Win + D	Display and hide the desktop.
Win + E	Open File Explorer.
Win + F	Open Feedback Hub and takes a screenshot.
Win + G	Open Xbox Game Bar when a game is open.
Win + H	Launch voice typing.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcut	Action
Win + I	Open the Windows 11 Settings app.
Win + K	Open Cast from Quick Settings. You can use this shortcut to share your device screen on your computer.
Win + L	Lock your PC or switch accounts (if you have created more than one account on your PC).
Win + M	Minimize all the opened windows.
Win + Shift + M	Restore all the minimized windows on the desktop.
Win + N	Open the Notification Center and Calendar.
Win + O	Lock your device orientation.
Win + P	Used to select a presentation display mode.
Win + Ctrl + Q	Open Quick Assist.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcut	Action
Win + Alt + R	Used to record the video of the game that you are playing (using the Xbox Game bar).
Win + R	Open the Run dialog box.
Win + S	Open Windows Search.
Win + Shift + S	Used to take a screenshot of the entire screen or a part of it.
Win + T	Cycle through apps on the Taskbar.
Win + U	Open Accessibility Settings.
Win + V	Open the Windows 11 Clipboard . Note: You can turn off Clipboard history in Settings. Simply launch the Settings app and go to System > Clipboard, and turn off the Clipboard history button. After that, the Win + V shortcut keys will launch the Clipboard but not display the Clipboard history.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcut	Action
Win + Shift + V	Set focus to a notification.
Win + W	Open Windows 11 Widgets.
Win + X	Open the Quick Link menu.
Win + Y	Switch input between your desktop and Windows Mixed Reality.
Win + Z	Open the snap layouts.
Win + period (.) or Win + semicolon (;)	Open Windows 11 Emoji Panel.
Win + comma (,)	Displays the desktop temporarily until you release the Windows logo key.
Win + Pause	Display the System Properties dialog box.
Win + Ctrl + F	Search for PCs (if you're connected to a network).

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcut	Action
Win + number	Open the app pinned on the taskbar in the position indicated by the number. If the app is already running, you can use this shortcut to switch to that app.
Win + Shift + number	Start a new instance of the app pinned to the taskbar in the position indicated by the number.
Win + Ctrl + number	Switch to the last active window of the app pinned to the taskbar in the position indicated by the number.
Win + Alt + number	Open the Jump List for the app pinned to the taskbar in the position indicated by the number.
Win + Ctrl + Shift + number	Open a new instance of the app located at the given position on the taskbar as an administrator.
Win + Tab	Open the Task View.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcut	Action
Win + Up arrow	Maximize the window or app that is currently active.
Win + Alt + Up arrow	Snap the currently active window or app to the top half of the screen.
Win + Down arrow	Restores the currently active window or app.
Win + Alt + Down arrow	Snap the currently active window or app to the bottom half of the screen.
Win + Left arrow	Maximize the currently active app or desktop window to the left side of the screen.
Win + Right arrow	Maximize the currently active app or desktop window to the right side of the screen.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcut	Action
Win + Home	Minimize all except the active desktop window or app (restores all windows on the second stroke).
Win + Shift + Up arrow	Stretch the active desktop window or app to the top of the screen by maintaining its width.
Win + Shift + Down arrow	Restore the active desktop window or app or stretch it vertically downwards by maintaining its width. (Minimize the restored window or app on the second stroke).
Win + Shift + Left arrow or Win + Shift + Right arrow	Move an app or window on the desktop from one monitor to another.
Win + Shift + Spacebar	Cycle backward through language and keyboard layout.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcut	Action
Win + Spacebar	Switch between different input languages and keyboard layouts.
Win + Ctrl + Spacebar	Change to the previously selected input.
Win + Ctrl + Enter	Turn on Narrator.
Win + Plus (+)	Open Magnifier and zoom in.
Win + Minus (-)	Zoom out in the Magnifier app.
Win + Esc	Close the Magnifier app.
Win + Forward- slash (/)	Begin IME reconversion.
Win + Ctrl + Shift + B	Wake PC from the blank or black screen.
Win + PrtScn	Save full-screen screenshot to file.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcut	Action
Win + Alt + PrtScn	Save a screenshot of the active game window to file (using Xbox Game Bar).

General Keyboard Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcuts	Action
Ctrl + X	Cut the selected item or text.
Ctrl + C (or Ctrl + Insert)	Copy the selected item or text.
Ctrl + V (or Shift + Insert)	Paste the selected item. Paste the copied text without losing formatting.
Ctrl + Shift + V	<u>Paste the text without formatting.</u>
Ctrl + Z	Undo an action.
Alt + Tab	Switch between open apps or windows.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcuts	Action
Alt + F4	Close the currently active window or app.
Alt + F8	Show your password on the sign-in screen.
Alt + Esc	Switch between the 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. This menu appears on the top left corner of 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.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcuts	Action
Ctrl + F4	Close the active document (in apps that are full-screen and let you have multiple documents open at the same time, such as Word, Excel, etc.).
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 + E	Open Search. This shortcut works in most apps.
Ctrl + R (or F5)	Refresh the active window. Reload the webpage in a web browser.
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. This shortcut may not work in some applications.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcuts	Action
Ctrl + Up arrow	Move the cursor to the beginning of the previous paragraph. This shortcut may not work in some applications.
Ctrl + Alt + Tab	Displays all the opened windows on your screen so that you can switch to the desired one by using arrow keys or your mouse click.
Alt + Shift + arrow keys	Used to move an app or tile on the Start Menu.
Ctrl + arrow key (to move to an item) + Spacebar	Select multiple individual items in a window or on the desktop. Here, the spacebar acts as a left mouse click.
Ctrl + Shift + Right Arrow key or Shift + Left Arrow key	Used to select a complete word or text.
Ctrl + Esc	Open the Start Menu.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcuts	Action
Ctrl + Shift + Esc	Open the Task Manager.
Shift + F10	Opens the right-click context 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	Permanently delete the selected item from your computer without moving it to the Recycle Bin.
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.
PrtScn	Take a screenshot of your whole screen and copy it to the clipboard. If you have enabled OneDrive on your computer, Windows saves the captured screenshot to OneDrive.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

File Explorer keyboard shortcuts

In Windows 11 File Explorer, you can do your tasks quickly by using the following keyboard shortcuts.

Keyboard Shortcuts	Action
Alt + D	Select the address bar.
Ctrl + E and Ctrl + F	Both of these shortcuts 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	Increase or decrease the size and appearance of file and folder icons.
Ctrl + Shift + E	Expands the selected item in the left pane of File Explorer.
Ctrl + Shift + N	Create a new folder.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcuts	Action
Num Lock + asterisk (*)	Displays all the folders and subfolders under the selected item in the left pane of File Explorer.
Num Lock + plus (+)	Display the contents of the selected item in the left pane of the File Explorer.
Num Lock + minus (-)	Collapse the selected site in the left pane of the File Explorer.
Alt + P	Toggles the preview panel.
Alt + Enter	Open the Properties dialog box for the selected item.
Alt + Right arrow	Used to move forward in File Explorer.
Alt + Up arrow	Take you one step back in the File Explorer
Alt + Left arrow	Used to move back in File Explorer.
Backspace	Used to view the previous folder.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcuts	Action
Right arrow	Expand 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	Select the last item in the current directory or display the bottom of the active window.
Home	Select the first item in the current directory display the top of the active window.

Taskbar keyboard shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcuts	Action
Shift + click on an app pinned on the Taskbar	Open the app. If the app is already running, another instance of the app will open.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcuts	Action
Ctrl + Shift + click on an app pinned on the Taskbar	Open the app as an administrator.
Shift + right-click on an app pinned on the Taskbar	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.

Dialog box keyboard shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcut	Action
F4	Display the items in the active list.
Ctrl + Tab	Move forward through tabs.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcut	Action
Ctrl + Shift + Tab	Move back through tabs.
Ctrl + number (number 1–9)	Move to the nth tab.
Tab	Move forward through options.
Shift + Tab	Move back through options.
Spacebar	Used to select or deselect the checkboxes.
Backspace	Take you one step back or open a folder one level up if a folder is selected in the Save As or Open dialog box.
Arrow keys	Used to move through the items in a particular directory or move the cursor in the specified direction in a document.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Command Prompt keyboard shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcut	Action
Ctrl + C (or Ctrl + Insert)	Copy the selected text.
Ctrl + V (or Shift + Insert)	Paste the selected text.
Ctrl + M	Enter into the Mark mode.
Alt + selection key	Begin selection in block mode.
Arrow keys	Used to move the cursor in a specified direction.
Page up	Move the cursor by one page up.
Page down	Move the cursor by one page down.
Ctrl + Home	Move the cursor to the beginning of the buffer. (This shortcut works only if the Mark mode is enabled).

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcut	Action
Ctrl + End	Move the cursor to the end of the buffer. (To use this keyboard shortcut, first, you have to enter into the Mark mode).
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.

Windows 11 Settings app keyboard shortcuts

By using the following keyboard shortcuts, you can navigate through the Windows 11 Settings app without using your mouse.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcuts	Action
Win + I	Open the Settings app.
Backspace	Used to return to the Settings home page.
Type on any page with a search box	Search settings.
Tab	Used to cycle through different sections in the Settings app.
Arrow keys	Used to cycle through different elements in a particular section.
Spacebar or Enter	Can be used as a left mouse click.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Keyboard shortcuts for Virtual Desktops

By using the following keyboard shortcuts, you can switch quickly between and close the specific virtual desktops.

Keyboard Shortcuts	Action
Win + Tab	Open Task view.
Win + Ctrl + D	Add a virtual desktop.
Win + Ctrl + Right arrow	Switch between virtual desktops you've created on the right.
Win + Ctrl + Left arrow	Switch between virtual desktops you've created on the left.
Win + Ctrl + F4	Close the virtual desktop you're using.

Windows 11 Shortcuts

Function keys shortcuts in Windows 11

Most of us do not know the use of Function keys in Windows OS. The following table will help you know what tasks different Function keys perform.

Keyboard Shortcuts	Action
F1	It is the default Help key in most of the apps.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cycle through screen elements in a window or on the desktop• It also cycles through the pinned apps on the Taskbar.• Takes you to the address bar if you press F6 in a web browser.
F7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Used for grammar and spell checking in some applications, like Microsoft Word.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It also turns on the Caret Browsing in some web browsers like Firefox, Chrome, etc. The Caret Browsing places a movable cursor on the web page so that you can select or copy the text by using the arrow keys on your keyboard.
F8	Used to enter into the Safe Mode while your system is booting.
F10	Activate the Menu bar in the active app.
F11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maximize and restore the active window.• It also activates the full-screen mode in some web browsers, like Firefox, Chrome, etc.
F12	Opens the Save As dialog box in Microsoft Office applications like Word, Excel, etc.

Also see:

[List of Touch Screen and Touchpad Gestures in Windows 11](#)