

Windows Tips and Tricks

Here is a quick list of some tools, shortcuts and tips that you may not know about. Hopefully you'll find them to be of some use.

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Hidden Tools in Windows

There are tools and utilities that I bet you never knew you had that can be accessed through the Run feature. (Start Menu->Run)

The main reason most people don't use the Run feature is because they don't know the Commands. So, to solve that problem, I decided to put together the following listing, which lists 101 Run Commands and what they correspond too...

To access.... Type this run command

Accessibility Controls....access.cpl

Add Hardware Wizard....hdwwiz.cpl

Add/Remove Programs....appwiz.cpl

Administrative Tools....control.exe admintools

Automatic Updates....wuaucpl.cpl

Bluetooth Transfer Wizard....fsquirt

Calculator....calc

Certificate Manager....certmgr.msc

Character Map....charmap

Check Disk Utility....chkdsk

Clipboard Viewer....clipbrd

Command Prompt....cmd

Component Services....dcomcnfg

Computer Management....compmgmt.msc

Date and Time Properties....timedate.cpl

DDE Shares....ddeshare

Device Manager....devmgmt.msc

Direct X Control Panel (if installed)*directx.cpl

Direct X Troubleshooter....dxdiag

Disk Cleanup Utility....cleanmgr

Disk Defragment....dfrg.msc

Disk Management....diskmgmt.msc

Disk Partition Manager....diskpart

Display Properties....control.exe desktop

Display Properties....desk.cpl

Display Properties (w/Appearance Tab Preselected)....control.exe color

Dr. Watson System Troubleshooting Utility....drwtsn32

Driver Verifier Utility....verifier

Event Viewer....eventvwr.msc

File Signature Verification Tool....sigverif

Findfast....findfast.cpl

Folders Properties....control.exe folders

Fonts....control.exe fonts

Fonts Folder....fonts

Free Cell Card Game....freecell

Game Controllers....joy.cpl

Group Policy Editor (XP Prof)....gpedit.msc

Hearts Card Game....mshearts

Iexpress Wizard....iexpress

Indexing Service....ciadv.msc

Internet Properties....inetcpl.cpl

Java Control Panel (if installed)....jpicpl32.cpl

Java Control Panel (if installed)....javaws

Keyboard Properties....control.exe keyboard
Local Security Settings.....secpol.msc
Local Users and Groups....lusrmgr.msc
Logs You Out Of Windows....logoff
Microsoft Chat....winchat
Minesweeper Game....winmine
Mouse Properties....control.exe mouse
Mouse Properties....main.cpl
Network Connections....control.exe netconnections
Network Connections....ncpa.cpl
Network Setup Wizard....netsetup.cpl
Nview Desktop Manager (if installed)....nvtuicpl.cpl
Object Packager....packager
ODBC Data Source Administrator....odbc32.cpl
On Screen Keyboard....osk
Opens AC3 Filter (if installed)....ac3filter.cpl
Password Properties....password.cpl
Performance Monitor....perfmon.msc
Performance Monitor....perfmon
Phone and Modem Options....telephon.cpl
Power Configuration....powercfg.cpl
Printers and Faxes....control.exe printers
Printers Folder....printers
Private Character Editor....eudcedit

Quicktime (If Installed)....QuickTime.cpl
Regional Settings....intl.cpl
Registry Editor....regedit
Registry Editor....regedit32
Removable Storage....ntsmgr.msc
Removable Storage Operator Requests....ntmsoprq.msc
Resultant Set of Policy....rsop.msc
Resultant Set of Policy (XP Prof)....rsop.msc
Scanners and Cameras....sticpl.cpl
Scheduled Tasks....control.exe schedtasks
Security Center....wscui.cpl
Services....services.msc
Shared Folders....fsmgmt.msc
Shuts Down Windows....shutdown
Sounds and Audio....mmsys.cpl
Spider Solitaire Card Game....spider
SQL Client Configuration....cliconfg
System Configuration Editor....sysedit
System Configuration Utility....msconfig
System File Checker Utility....sfc
System Properties....sysdm.cpl
Task Manager....taskmgr
Telnet Client....telnet
User Account Management....nusrmgr.cpl

Utility Manager....utilman

Windows Firewall....firewall.cpl

Windows Magnifier....magnify

Windows Management Infrastructure....wmingmt.msc

Windows System Security Tool....syskey

Windows Update Launches....wupdmgr

Windows XP Tour Wizard....tourstart

Wordpad....write

ShortCuts

Microsoft windows keyboard shortcuts. You might know most of these shortcuts, but I'm guessing a few may be new to you.

CTRL+C (Copy)

CTRL+X (Cut)

CTRL+V (Paste)

CTRL+Z (Undo)

DELETE (Delete)

SHIFT+DELETE (Delete the selected item permanently without placing the item in the Recycle Bin)

CTRL while dragging an item (Copy the selected item)

CTRL+SHIFT while dragging an item (Create a shortcut to the selected item)

F2 key (Rename the selected item)

CTRL+RIGHT ARROW (Move the insertion point to the beginning of the next word)

CTRL+LEFT ARROW (Move the insertion point to the beginning of the previous word)

CTRL+DOWN ARROW (Move the insertion point to the beginning of the next paragraph)

CTRL+UP ARROW (Move the insertion point to the beginning of the previous paragraph)

CTRL+SHIFT with any of the arrow keys (Highlight a block of text)

SHIFT with any of the arrow keys (Select more than one item in a window or on the desktop, or select text in a document)

CTRL+A (Select all)

F3 key (Search for a file or a folder)

ALT+ENTER (View the properties for the selected item)

ALT+F4 (Close the active item, or quit the active program)

ALT+ENTER (Display the properties of the selected object)

ALT+SPACEBAR (Open the shortcut menu for the active window)

CTRL+F4 (Close the active document in programs that enable you to have multiple documents open simultaneously)

ALT+TAB (Switch between the open items)

ALT+ESC (Cycle through items in the order that they had been opened)

F6 key (Cycle through the screen elements in a window or on the desktop)

F4 key (Display the Address bar list in My Computer or Windows Explorer)

SHIFT+F10 (Display the shortcut menu for the selected item)

ALT+SPACEBAR (Display the System menu for the active window)

CTRL+ESC (Display the Start menu)

ALT+Underlined letter in a menu name (Display the corresponding menu)

Underlined letter in a command name on an open menu (Perform the corresponding command)

F10 key (Activate the menu bar in the active program)

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)

F5 key (Update the active window)

BACKSPACE (View the folder one level up in My Computer or Windows Explorer)

ESC (Cancel the current task)

SHIFT when you insert a CD-ROM into the CD-ROM drive (Prevent the CD-ROM from automatically playing)

Dialog Box Keyboard Shortcuts

CTRL+TAB (Move forward through the tabs)

CTRL+SHIFT+TAB (Move backward through the tabs)

TAB (Move forward through the options)

SHIFT+TAB (Move backward through the options)

ALT+Underlined letter (Perform the corresponding command or select the corresponding option)

ENTER (Perform the command for the active option or button)

SPACEBAR (Select or clear the check box if the active option is a check box)

Arrow keys (Select a button if the active option is a group of option buttons)

F1 key (Display Help)

F4 key (Display the items in the active list)

BACKSPACE (Open a folder one level up if a folder is selected in the Save As or Open dialog box)

Microsoft Natural Keyboard Shortcuts

Windows Logo (Display or hide the Start menu)

Windows Logo+BREAK (Display the System Properties dialog box)

Windows Logo+D (Display the desktop)

Windows Logo+M (Minimize all of the windows)

Windows Logo+SHIFT+M (Restore the minimized windows)

Windows Logo+E (Open My Computer)

Windows Logo+F (Search for a file or a folder)

CTRL+Windows Logo+F (Search for computers)

Windows Logo+F1 (Display Windows Help)

Windows Logo+ L (Lock the keyboard)

Windows Logo+R (Open the Run dialog box)

Windows Logo+U (Open Utility Manager)

Accessibility Keyboard Shortcuts

Right SHIFT for eight seconds (Switch FilterKeys either on or off)

Left ALT+left SHIFT+PRINT SCREEN (Switch High Contrast either on or off)

Left ALT+left SHIFT+NUM LOCK (Switch the MouseKeys either on or off)

SHIFT five times (Switch the StickyKeys either on or off)

NUM LOCK for five seconds (Switch the ToggleKeys either on or off)

Windows Logo +U (Open Utility Manager)

Windows Explorer Keyboard Shortcuts

END (Display the bottom of the active window)

HOME (Display the top of the active window)

NUM LOCK+Asterisk sign (*) (Display all of the subfolders that are under the selected folder)

NUM LOCK+Plus sign (+) (Display the contents of the selected folder)

NUM LOCK+Minus sign (-) (Collapse the selected folder)

LEFT ARROW (Collapse the current selection if it is expanded, or select the parent folder)

RIGHT ARROW (Display the current selection if it is collapsed, or select the first subfolder)

Shortcut Keys for Character Map

After you double-click a character on the grid of characters, you can move through the grid by using the keyboard shortcuts:

RIGHT ARROW (Move to the right or to the beginning of the next line)

LEFT ARROW (Move to the left or to the end of the previous line)

UP ARROW (Move up one row)

DOWN ARROW (Move down one row)

PAGE UP (Move up one screen at a time)

PAGE DOWN (Move down one screen at a time)

HOME (Move to the beginning of the line)

END (Move to the end of the line)

CTRL+HOME (Move to the first character)

CTRL+END (Move to the last character)

SPACEBAR (Switch between Enlarged and Normal mode when a character is selected)

Microsoft Management Console (MMC) Main Window Keyboard Shortcuts

CTRL+O (Open a saved console)

CTRL+N (Open a new console)

CTRL+S (Save the open console)

CTRL+M (Add or remove a console item)

CTRL+W (Open a new window)

F5 key (Update the content of all console windows)

ALT+SPACEBAR (Display the MMC window menu)

ALT+F4 (Close the console)

ALT+A (Display the Action menu)

ALT+V (Display the View menu)

ALT+F (Display the File menu)

ALT+O (Display the Favorites menu)

MMC Console Window Keyboard Shortcuts

CTRL+P (Print the current page or active pane)

ALT+Minus sign (-) (Display the window menu for the active console window)

SHIFT+F10 (Display the Action shortcut menu for the selected item)

F1 key (Open the Help topic, if any, for the selected item)

F5 key (Update the content of all console windows)

CTRL+F10 (Maximize the active console window)

CTRL+F5 (Restore the active console window)

ALT+ENTER (Display the Properties dialog box, if any, for the selected item)

F2 key (Rename the selected item)

CTRL+F4 (Close the active console window. When a console has only one console window, this shortcut closes the console)

Remote Desktop Connection Navigation

CTRL+ALT+END (Open the m*cro\$oft Windows NT Security dialog box)

ALT+PAGE UP (Switch between programs from left to right)

ALT+PAGE DOWN (Switch between programs from right to left)

ALT+INSERT (Cycle through the programs in most recently used order)

ALT+HOME (Display the Start menu)

CTRL+ALT+BREAK (Switch the client computer between a window and a full screen)

ALT+DELETE (Display the Windows menu)

CTRL+ALT+Minus sign (-) (Place a snapshot of the active window in the client on the Terminal server clipboard and provide the same functionality as pressing PRINT SCREEN on a local computer.)

CTRL+ALT+Plus sign (+) (Place a snapshot of the entire client window area on the Terminal server clipboard and provide the same functionality as pressing ALT+PRINT SCREEN on a local computer.)

Capturing screen shots

Print Scr - Captures the current desktop to the clipboard as an image.

ALT+Print Scr - Captures the currently active window to the clipboard as an image.

Internet Explorer navigation

CTRL+B (Open the Organize Favorites dialog box)

CTRL+E (Open the Search bar)

CTRL+F (Start the Find utility)

CTRL+H (Open the History bar)

CTRL+I (Open the Favorites bar)

CTRL+L (Open the Open dialog box)

CTRL+N (Start another instance of the browser with the same Web address)

CTRL+O (Open the Open dialog box, the same as CTRL+L)

CTRL+P (Open the Print dialog box)

CTRL+R (Update the current Web page)

CTRL+W (Close the current window)

Additional:

ALT+SPACEBAR (Open the shortcut menu for the active window)

ALT+SPACEBAR (Display the System menu for the active window)

ALT+SPACEBAR + N = Shrink (minimize) current window

ALT+SPACEBAR + X = Maximize current window

ALT+SPACEBAR + M = Move current windows with arrow keys

Also, don't forget for internet browsing,

In IE, typing in google, and then pressing CTRL+Enter fills in the www, and the .com, and if you use Firefox, Ctrl+Shift+Enter adds .org, and Shift-Enter fills in .net!!

Hiding Folders

Did you know that you can lock folders so they cannot be viewed by other people, without having special security software installed on your computer? It's easy! Suppose you want to lock the folder myfiles in d: which has the path D:\MyFiles In the same drive create a text file and type
ren MyFiles MyFiles.{21EC2020-3AEA-1069-A2DD-08002B30309D}

Now save this text file as **Lock.bat**

Create another text file and type in it:

ren MyFiles.{21EC2020-3AEA-1069-A2DD-08002B30309D} MyFiles

Now save this second text file as **UnLock.bat**

Now you can see 2 batch files Lock.bat and UnLock.bat. Click on the file named Lock.bat and the folder MyFiles will change to control panel and you cannot view its contents. Click on the file named UnLock.bat and you will get back your original folder.

Try it out!!!!!!