

## Windows key Shortcuts and Commands List every Win admin / support must know

Author : admin



If you're a **system administrator of Windows Servers** or or just a **PC support in a small company** and you have to **fix PCs running Microsoft Windows XP / 7 / 8 daily**, sooner or later you will be interested into **how to optimize your windows maintainance work to be able to do more adminsitration work for less time**.

*M\$ Windows OS* has evolved a lot over the past *10+ years* and many of the features available *GUI* are now either possible to be done via a standard commands and the *GUI* interfaces. Various adminsitration and common daily work simplification goodies are now accessible through **quick access shortcuts and commands**.

Virtually all Windows operating system environment could be now customized by using such shortcuts, this reduces the multitude of annoying double clicks which are truly pissing off **sysadmins and tech-supports involved in Windows Ticket solving**.

Win Shortcuts and Commands helps to:

- **Quickly invoke almost all System Settings available from Windows Control Panel**
- **Access all admins tools GUIs throguh command**
- **Speed up *Opening Video, Pictures, Documents, Downloads folders start Windows Update, Configure Printers / Fax / Add Sharings***

*etc..*

A lot of the commands were new to me thus I decided to try out all of the commands in *command prompt (cmd)*. Many of the tools down-mentioned were news to me and let me understand better on

**Windows Internals**, so if you time try them out.

### Function

*Open Documents Folder*  
*Open Videos folder*  
*Open Downloads Folder*  
*Open Favorites Folder*  
*View Recent messages of your PC*  
*Open Recent Folder*  
*Open Pictures Folder*  
*Windows Sideshow*  
*Windows CardSpace (Windows ID Manager)*  
*Windows Anytime Upgrade*

*Taskbar and Start Menu*

*Troubleshooting*  
*User Accounts (Run user accounts Interface)*  
*Adding a new Device*  
*Add Hardware Wizard*  
*Advanced User Accounts Management*  
*Advanced User Accounts (Authorization Mgr)*  
*Windows Backup and Restore*  
*Bluetooth File Transfer*  
*Calculator*  
*Certificates Manager*  
*Change Computer Performance Settings*

*Change Data Execution Prevention Settings*  
*Change Data Execution Prevention Settings*  
*Character Map*  
*ClearType Tuner*  
*Color Management*  
*Command Prompt*  
*Component Services*  
*Component Services*  
*Computer Management Interface*  
*Computer Management Interface*  
*Connect to Network Project via Network*  
*Connect to a Projector*  
*Run Control Panel command*  
*Create A Shared Folder Wizard*  
*Create a System Repair Disc*  
*Credential Backup and Restore Wizard*  
*Data Execution Prevention*

### Comand

Start menu -> Search (Type **documents**)  
**Start -> Search (Type videos)**  
Start -> Search (Type **downloads**)  
**favorites**  
Start menu -> Search (Type **recent**)  
**N/A**  
*Start menu -> Search (Type pictures)*  
**control.exe /name Microsoft.WindowsSideshow**  
**control.exe /name Microsoft.cardspace**  
Start menu -> Search dialog  
(Type **WindowsUpdate**)  
**control.exe /name**  
**Microsoft.TaskbarandStartMenu**  
**control.exe /name Microsoft.Troubleshooting**  
**control.exe /name Microsoft.UserAccounts**  
**devicepairingwizard**  
**hdwwiz**  
**netplwiz**  
**azman.msc**  
**sdclt**  
**fsquirt**  
**calc**  
**certmgr.msc**  
**systempropertiesperformance** (Remove visual effects)  
**systempropertiesdataexecutionprevention**  
**printui**  
**charmap**  
**cttune** (Make text onscreen more readable)  
**colorcpl**  
**cmd**  
**comexp.msc**  
**dcomcnfg**  
**compmgmt.msc**  
**compmgmtlauncher**  
**netproj**  
**displayswitch** (Alias for Fn key + F4)  
**control**  
**shrpwb**  
**recdisc**  
**credwiz**  
**systempropertiesdataexecutionprevention**

### Function

*Date and Time*  
*Default Location*  
*Device Manager*  
*Device Manager*  
*Device Pairing Wizard*  
*Diagnostics Troubleshooting Wizard*  
*Digitizer Calibration Tool*  
*DirectX Diagnostic Tool*  
*Disk Cleanup*  
*Disk Defragmenter*  
*Disk Management*  
*Display (Change font size of text onscreen)*  
*Display Color Calibration*  
*Display Switch*  
*DPAPI Key Migration Wizard*  
*Driver Verifier Manager*  
*Ease of Access Center*  
*EFS Wizard*  
*Event Viewer*  
*Fax Cover Page Editor*  
*File Signature Verification*  
*Font Viewer*  
*Game Controllers*  
*Windows Getting Started Iface*  
*IExpress Wizard*  
*Another alias for Getting Started*  
*Install or Uninstall Display Languages*  
*Internet Explorer*  
*Run Internet Explorer Internet Options*  
*iSCSI Initiator Configuration Tool*  
*Language Pack Installer*  
*Local Group Policy Editor*  
*Local Security Policy*  
*Local Users and Groups*  
*Location Activity*  
*Magnifier*  
*Malicious Software Removal Tool*  
  
*Manage Your File Encryption Certificates*  
*Math Input Panel*  
*Microsoft Management Console*  
*Microsoft Support Diagnostic Tool*  
*Mouse*  
*NAP Client Configuration*  
*Narrator*

### Comand

**timedate.cpl**  
**locationnotifications**  
**devmgmt.msc**  
**hdwwiz.cpl**  
**devicepairingwizard**  
**msdt**  
**tabcal**  
**dxdiag**  
**cleanmgr**  
**dfrgui**  
**diskmgmt.msc**  
**dpiscaling**  
**dccw**  
**displayswitch**  
**dpapimig**  
**verifier**  
**utilman**  
**rekeywiz**  
**eventvwr.msc**  
**fxscover**  
**sigverif**  
**fontview**  
**joy.cpl**  
**gettingstarted**  
**iexpress**  
**irprops.cpl**  
**lusrmgr**  
**ieexplore**  
**inetcpl.cpl**  
**iscsicpl**  
**lpksetup**  
**gpedit.msc**  
**secpol.msc**  
**lusrmgr.msc**  
**locationnotifications**  
**magnify**  
**mrt** (Might be not existent on some Windows versions)  
**rekeywiz**  
**mip**  
**mmc**  
**msdt**  
**main.cpl**  
**napclcfg.msc**  
**narrator**

### Function

*Network Connections*  
*New Scan Wizard*  
*Notepad*  
*ODBC Data Source Administrator*  
*ODBC Driver Configuration*  
*On-Screen Keyboard*  
*Paint*  
*Pen and Touch*  
*People Near Me*  
*Performance Monitor*  
*Performance Options*  
*Phone and Modem*  
*Phone Dialer*  
*Power Options*  
*Presentation Settings*  
*Print Management*  
*Printer Migration*  
*Printer User Interface*  
*Private Character Editor*  
*Problem Steps Recorder*  
*Programs and Features (Install / Uninstall)*  
*Protected Content Migration*  
*Region and Language*  
*Registry Editor*  
*Registry Editor 32*  
*Remote Access Phonebook*  
*Remote Desktop Connection*  
*Resource Monitor*  
*Resultant Set of Policy*  
*SAM Lock Tool*  
*Screen Resolution*  
*Securing the Windows Account Database*  
*Services*  
*Set Program Access and Computer Defaults*  
*Share Creation Wizard*  
*Shared Folders*  
*Snipping Tool*  
*Sound*  
*Sound recorder*  
*SQL Server Client Network Utility*  
*Sticky Notes*  
*Stored User Names and Passwords*  
*Sync Center*  
*System Configuration*  
*System Configuration Editor*

### Comand

**ncpa.cpl**  
**wiaacmgr**  
**notepad**  
**odbcad32**  
**odbcconf**  
**osk**  
**mspaint**  
**tabletpc.cpl**  
**collab.cpl**  
**perfmon.msc**  
**systempropertiesperformance**  
**telephon.cpl**  
**dialer**  
**powercfg.cpl**  
**presentationsettings**  
**printmanagement.msc**  
**printbrmui**  
**printui**  
**eudcedit**  
**psr**  
**appwiz.cpl**  
**dpapimig**  
**intl.cpl**  
**regedit**  
**regedt32**  
**rasphone**  
**mstsc**  
**resmon**  
**rsop.msc**  
**syskey**  
**desk.cpl**  
**syskey**  
**services.msc**  
**computerdefaults**  
**shrpwbw**  
**fsmgmt.msc**  
**snippingtool**  
**mmsys.cpl**  
**soundrecorder**  
**cliconfg**  
**stikynot**  
**credwiz**  
**mobsync**  
**msconfig**  
**sysedit**

### Function

*System Information*  
*System Properties*  
*System Properties (Advanced Tab)*  
*System Properties (Computer Name Tab)*  
*System Properties (Hardware Tab)*  
*System Properties (Remote Tab)*  
*System Properties (System Protection Tab)*  
*System Restore*  
*Task Manager*  
*Task Scheduler*  
*Trusted Platform Module (TPM) Management*  
*User Account Control Settings*  
*Utility Manager*  
*Version Reporter Applet*  
*Volume Mixer*  
*Windows Action Center*  
*Windows Activation Client*  
*Windows Anytime Upgrade Results*  
*Windows CardSpace*  
*Windows Disc Image Burning Tool*  
*Windows DVD Maker*  
*Windows Easy Transfer*  
*Run Windows Explorer*  
*Windows Fax and Scan*  
*Windows Features*  
*Windows Firewall*  
*Windows Firewall with Advanced Security*  
*Windows Journal*  
*Windows Media Player*  
*Windows Memory Diagnostic Scheduler*  
*Windows Mobility Center (Stats)*  
*Windows Picture Acquisition Wizard*  
*Windows PowerShell*  
*Windows PowerShell ISE*  
*Windows Remote Assistance*  
*Windows Repair Disc*  
*Windows Script Host*  
*Windows Update*  
*Windows Update Standalone Installer*  
*Show Windows Version*  
*WMI Management*  
*WordPad*  
*XPS Viewer*

### Comand

**msinfo32**  
**sysdm.cpl**  
**systempropertiesadvanced**  
**systempropertiescomputername**  
**systempropertieshardware**  
**systempropertiesremote**  
**systempropertiesprotection**  
**rstrui**  
**taskmgr**  
**taskschd.msc**  
**tpm.msc**  
**useraccountcontrolsettings**  
**utilman**  
**winver**  
**sndvol**  
**wscui.cpl**  
**slui** (Runs on Windows license activation time)  
**windowsanytimeupgraderesults**  
**infocardcpl.cpl**  
**isoburn** (Command line tool to burn images)  
**dvdmaker** (N/A on Windows 7, 8)  
**migwiz** (N/A on many Windows versions)  
**explorer**  
**wfs**  
**optionalfeatures**  
**firewall.cpl**  
**wf.msc**  
**journal** (N/A on Windows 7)  
**wmplayer** (N/A on many Windows releases)  
**mdsched** (Check your PC memory on next boot)  
**mblctr**  
**wiaacmgr**  
**powershell**  
**powershell\_ise**  
**msra**  
**recdisc**  
**wscript**  
**wuapp**  
**wusa**  
**winver**  
**wmimgmt.msc**  
**write**  
**xpsrchvw**

Most of above commands works fine with **Windows XP, Vista and Windows 7 / 8, Windows 2003 / 2012**, however some cmds are missing across some win versions.



Here is list of other **useful Windows shortcut keys**:

### *General keyboard shortcuts*

- Ctrl+C (Copy)
- Ctrl+X (Delete selected item and save a copy to the clipboard)
- Ctrl+V (Paste)
- Ctrl+Z (Undo)
- Delete (Delete)
- Shift+Delete (Delete the selected item permanently without moving the item to 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 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+Shift with any arrow key (Highlight a block of text)
- Shift with any arrow key (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 exit 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 multiple documents to be open at the same time)
- Alt+Tab (Switch between the open items)
- Alt+Esc (Cycle through items in the order in which they were 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 in 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 into the CD drive (Prevent the CD from automatically playing)
- Ctrl+Shift+Esc (Open Task Manager)

### *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 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 on or off)
- Left Alt+left Shift+Print Screen (Switch High Contrast on or off)

- Left Alt+left Shift+Num Lock (Switch the MouseKeys on or off)
- Shift five times (Switch the StickyKeys on or off)
- Num Lock for five seconds (Switch the ToggleKeys 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 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)

### ***Keyboard Shortcuts 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)

### *Microsoft Management Console (MMC) 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 Microsoft 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 display)
- Alt+Delete (Display the Windows menu)
- Ctrl+Alt+Minus sign (-) (Put a snapshot of the complete client window area on the Terminal server clipboard and provide the same functionality as pressing Alt+Print Screen on a local computer)
- Ctrl+Alt+Plus sign (+) (Put 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.)

### *Microsoft 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+L+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 webpage)
- Ctrl+W (Close the current window)

Complete list of [Windows Keyboard Shortcuts is on Microsoft website](#)