

Windows 8, useful keyboard shortcuts

Keystrokes	Result
Windows key (⊞)	Switches between the Windows 8 apps and Start screen and the Windows Desktop (or the last full-screen application that displayed).
Windows key + C	Opens the charms bar and the Clock. To open the charms bar on a notebook computer, swipe the edge of the track pad.
Windows key + H	Opens the Share charm.
Windows key + I	Opens the Settings charm.
Windows key + K	Opens the Devices charm.
Windows key + O	Locks or unlocks the screen orientation if your computer can detect and adjust screen orientation.
Windows key + W	Opens the Search charm with the Settings mode selected.
Windows key + F	Opens the Search charm with the Files mode selected.
Windows key + Q	Opens the Search charm with the Apps mode selected.
Windows key + X	Opens the menu on the Desktop or the Start screen.
Windows key + Z	Opens the commands or options for the app currently open on the screen (if the app has any commands or options defined).
Windows key + Tab	Shows the most recently used or currently running apps on the Start screen. To move from app to app, hold the Windows key and press the Tab key.
Windows key + Prt Scr (Print Screen)	Takes and saves screenshots instantly. Your screen flashes and Windows saves the screenshot to your Pictures folder as a PNG image file.
Alt + Tab	Shows all the apps that are open on the computer. Hold the Alt key and press the Tab key to move from app to app.
Alt + F4	Closes the software you are currently using. If you select Windows Desktop , the Windows Shut Down menu displays.
Ctrl + F1	Toggles the Explorer ribbon in File Explorer and other apps that support this function.