Cheatography

Better Bash Keyboard Shortcuts

by bhartshorn via cheatography.com/65466/cs/16394/

movement

ctrl + a
> go to start of line

ctrl + e
> go to **e**nd of line

ctrl + xx
> go to start of line, press again to go back to starting position

alt + b
> go **b**ack one word

alt + f
> go **f**orward one word

ctrl + b
> go **b**ack one character

ctrl + f
> fo **f**orward one character

history

ctrl + r
> search history backward

ctrl + s
> search history forward*

ctrl + g
> quit search mode

ctrl + p
> previous command (same as ↑)

ctrl + n
> next command (same as ↓)

ctrl + o
> run current command from history, then queue next command in history

alt + .
> insert last word of previous command (additional presses cycle back through history)

* ctrl + s by default will stop output from the shell, but this is a terminal-level feature which blocks this command from reaching the shell
* run `stty -ixon` to disable to terminal feature, place in `~/.bashrc` to make permanent

control

control (cont)

ctrl + q
> unpause screen output

ctrl + z
> suspend program (use `fg` to unsuspend)

manipulation

alt + c
> **c**aptialize to end of word (make current char uppercase, remainder of word lowercase)

alt + u
> from cursor, **u**ppercase to end of word

alt + l
> from cursor, **l**owercase to end of word

alt + t
> **t**ranspose word with previous word (space counts as the next word)

ctrl + _ OR ctrl + 7 OR ctrl +x ctrl + u
> undo last edit (can be used repeatedly)

ctrl + x ctrl + e
> open the current command line in your editor*

* specify desired editor by setting $EDITOR or $VISUAL environment variables
* when editing the command line in vi-like editor, quit with `:cq` to *avoid running the command*, otherwise exit with `:wq` or `:x` as usual
* the shell might not recognise a GUI editor properly, since some spawn the process and then exit

cut/paste/delete

bang

!!
> run last whole command

!foo
> run last command starting with "foo"

!?foo?
> run last command containing foo

!$
> replaced with last word of previous command (same as `alt + .` but doesn't put the actual text)

!*
> replaced with all arguments of previous command

<bang cmd>:p
> print what <bang cmd> would be replaced with/run

<bang cmd>:s/foo/bar
> replace foo with bar in command returned by <bang cmd> (use sed search/replace format)

ctrl + l

> clear screen

ctrl + s

> pause screen output

ctrl + u

> from cursor, delete to start of line

ctrl + k

> from cursor, delete to end of line

ctrl + w

> from cursor, delete to start of word

alt + d

> from cursor, delete to end of word

ctrl + d

> delete current character (delete key)

ctrl + h

> delete character before cursor (backspace)

ctrl + y

> paste cut/deleted text after cursor

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