

Run Commands Cheatsheet

Read the web version at [PCTips.com](https://www.pctips.com)

Press **Windows + R** to open the Run dialog box. Enter any command and try it out.

Don't Skip These Basics

Command	Action
msinfo32	Open the System Information applet
ncpa.cpl	Open the Network Connections page
cmd	Launch Command Prompt
powershell	Launch PowerShell
msconfig	Launch the System Config utility
appwiz.cpl	Open the Programs and Features page
devmgmt.msc	Launch the Device Manager utility
diskmgmt.msc	Launch the Disk Management utility
sysdm.cpl	Configure System Properties
control	Launch the Control Panel
services.msc	Launch the Services Management Console
regedit	Launch the Registry Editor
notepad	Launch Notepad
osk	Bring up the On-Screen Keyboard
%temp%	Access the temp folder in the File Explorer

Get System Info

Command	Action
msinfo32	Open System Info

Shortcut	Action
dxdiag	Open the DirectX Diagnostic tool
winver	Display the full Windows build and version
taskmgr	Open the Task Manager
perfmon	Open the Performance Monitor
resmon	Open the Resource Monitor

Open Locations in File Explorer

Command	Action
.	Open the user's home folder
..	Open the C:\Users folder
%temp%	Open the Temp folder
%appdata%	Open the AppData folder
%programdata%	Open the ProgramData folder
%systemdrive%	Open the drive where Windows is installed (C: by default)
%windir%	Open the Windows folder
%programfiles%	Open the ProgramFiles folder
%userprofile%	Open the User profile folder
shell:recent	Open the Recent items page
shell:system	Open the System32 folder
C:	Open the C: drive in Windows Explorer (replace the drive letter to access any other partition)

Launch Windows Apps

Command	Action
cmd	Open a Command Prompt window
powershell	Open a PowerShell window
calc	Launch the calculator
explorer	Launch the File Explorer
mspaint	Launch Microsoft Paint
notepad	Launch Notepad
wordpad	Launch WordPad

Launch Third-Party Programs

Command	Action
winword	Launch Microsoft Word
word /safe	Launch MS Word in safe mode
excel	Launch MS Excel
chrome	Launch Google Chrome
firefox	Launch Mozilla Firefox
opera	Launch the Opera browser
acrobat	Launch Adobe Acrobat
photoshop	Launch Adobe Photoshop

Navigate the Control Panel

Command	Action
control	Open the Control Panel

Shortcut	Action
control admintools	Open the Windows Admin Tools page
appwiz.cpl	Open the Programs and Features page
ncpa.cpl	Configure Network Adapter settings
mmsys.cpl	Configure Sound Device settings
desk.cpl	Configure Display settings
control mouse	Configure Mouse settings
control keyboard	Configure Keyboard settings
control printers	Configure Printer settings
joy.cpl	Configure installed Game Controllers
timedate.cpl	Configure Date and Time settings
control folders	Configure File Explorer settings
computerdefaults	Configure Default Apps
wscui.cpl	Configure Security and Maintenance settings
powercfg.cpl	Configure Power Options
control access.cpl	Configure Ease of Access settings
utilman	Configure Accessibility settings
sdclt	Set up Windows Backup
file history	Configure File History for backups
control.exe /name microsoft.troubleshooting	Access the built-in troubleshooters

Access System Management Tools

Command	Action
diskmgmt.msc	Open the Disk Management console
devmgmt.msc	Open the Device Manager console
services.msc	Manage Windows services (run, stop, change startup behavior)
regedit	Open the Registry editor
lusrmgr.msc	Manage users and groups (accounts and passwords)
netplwiz	Alternative way to manage user accounts
control.exe /name Microsoft.UserAccounts	Change account settings for the logged-in user
sysdm.cpl	Configure System Properties
systempropertiesperformance	Directly open the Performance options page
tpm.msc	View and manage the TPM status
compmgmt.msc	Open the Computer management console
taskschd.msc	Open the Task Scheduler
eventvwr.msc	Open the Event Viewer
gpedit.msc	Manage group policy settings
secpol.msc	Manage security policy settings
dfrgui	Optimize disks via defragmentation
cleanmgr	Open the Disk Cleanup wizard
optionalfeatures	Turn optional Windows features on or off (Hyper-V for virtualization, Windows Subsystem for Linux, etc)
rstrui	Use System Restore to roll back your PC
systemreset	Access the Windows Reset feature

Shortcut	Action
mdsched	Launch the Memory Diagnostic tool
verifier	Launch the Driver Verifier tool

Change Display Settings

Command	Action
desk.cpl	Configure display settings like the resolution and refresh rate
control color	Configure the background, theme, lock screen, and similar options
colorcpl	Manage color profiles for your monitors
cttune	Improve readability with Clear Type Text Tuner

Network Commands

Command	Action
ncpa.cpl	Open the Network Connections page
mstsc	Launch the Remote desktop connection wizard
firewall.cpl	Change Windows Defender firewall settings
wf.msc	Change advanced firewall settings

Sate Your Curiosity

Command	Action
fonts	View installed fonts and manage font settings
fsquirt	Launch the Bluetooth File Transfer wizard
psr	Launch the Steps Recorder

Shortcut	Action
charmap	Access all characters in the Character Map
eudcedit	Create custom characters and fonts
credwiz	Backup or restore credentials
intl.cpl	Manage date and time formats
narrator	Customize narrator (screen reader) settings
useraccountcontrolsettings	Set the UAC notification level
devicepairingwizard	Add a printer or device to your PC
magnify	Launch the Magnify tool
snippingtool	Launch the snipping tool (screenshots)
logoff	Sign out of your account (the logoff will begin as soon as you press enter)
shutdown	Power off your PC