

Claude Code — Shortcuts & Speed Tricks

The keystrokes that make Claude Code feel like an extension of your hands. Press ? on an empty prompt to see shortcut help any time.

stuck.builders

Build systems, not tabs

MAGIC PREFIXES — TYPE THESE FIRST

- /** Open the command & skill menu
- !** Shell mode — run a bash command directly
- @** Mention a file (with autocomplete)
- ?** On empty input: toggle shortcut help

FLOW CONTROL

- Esc** Interrupt Claude mid-response
- Esc Esc** Empty input: open the rewind menu
- Shift+Tab** Cycle modes: default → accept-edits → plan
- Ctrl+C** Clear input (twice = exit)
- Ctrl+D** Exit Claude Code
- Ctrl+Z** Suspend — type fg to come back

SEEING WHAT'S HAPPENING

- Ctrl+O** Toggle full transcript viewer
- Ctrl+T** Show/hide Claude's task checklist
- Ctrl+B** Send running work to the background
- Ctrl+L** Redraw a garbled screen

MODEL & THINKING ON THE FLY

- Opt/Alt+P** Switch model without losing your prompt
- Opt/Alt+T** Toggle extended thinking
- Opt/Alt+O** Toggle fast mode

WRITING PROMPTS FASTER

- Ctrl+G** Open your prompt in a real text editor
- Ctrl+V** Paste an image from clipboard
- Ctrl+S** Stash a half-written prompt; restore later
- Shift+Enter** New line (most terminals)
- Ctrl+J** New line (works in every terminal)

HISTORY

- ↑ / ↓** Walk back through past prompts
- Ctrl+R** Search your prompt history

LINE EDITING (READLINE)

- Ctrl+A / E** Jump to start / end of line
- Ctrl+K** Delete to end of line
- Ctrl+U** Delete to start of line
- Ctrl+W** Delete previous word
- Ctrl+Y** Paste what you just deleted
- Alt+B / F** Move back / forward one word
- Ctrl+_** Undo last edit

The one shortcut that changes everything:

Shift+Tab into **plan mode** before any big change. Claude thinks and proposes first, builds second — you approve the plan before a single file moves.

Feeling lost? **Ctrl+O** shows you everything Claude actually did, step by step. Trust is built in the transcript.