darktable Photo workflow shortcuts

START HERE

- **D** Open image in darkroom
- **Tab** Hide all panels
- **0-5** Star rating
- **H** Show this view's shortcuts
- **R** Reject image
- **F1-F5** Colour labels
- **Ctrl** + **Z** / **Ctrl** + **Y** Undo / redo
- **Ctrl** + **C** / **Ctrl** + **V** Copy / paste edits

Import film roll → *cull* → **Lighttable** rate, label, select → **D** → **Darkroom** edit, history stack → *copy / paste* → **Export** selected images

CONCEPTS

Keys act on the image under the mouse pointer; with none hovered they act on the selection.

Press H in any view to list the shortcuts active there. Everything is rebindable in preferences > shortcuts.

Edits are non-destructive: they live in the history stack and an XMP sidecar, never in the raw file.

Shortcuts are the defaults of the 5.6 / development manual; older releases can differ.

VIEWS

- **L** Lighttable: browse and cull
- **D** Darkroom: develop the image
  From the lighttable it opens the hovered or first selected image.
- **T** Tethering: shoot from camera
- **M** Map: place images by GPS
- **S** Slideshow

VIEWS (cont.)

- **P** Print
- **H** Show shortcuts of this view

RATE AND LABEL

- **0-5** Set star rating (0 clears)
- **R** Reject image
- **F1-F5** Toggle red/yellow/green/blue/purple
  Adds the label if any selected image lacks it, otherwise removes it.
- **Ctrl** + **D** Duplicate image (new version)

SELECT AND BROWSE

- **Space** Toggle selection under pointer
- **Ctrl** + **click** Add/remove from selection
- **Shift** + **click** Select a range
- **Enter** Select image under pointer
- **Ctrl** + **A** Select all
- **Ctrl** + **Shift** + **A** Deselect all

SELECT AND BROWSE (cont.)

- **Ctrl** + **I** Invert selection
- **Home** / **End** Jump to start / end of collection
- **PageUp** / **PageDown** Scroll one page
- **Ctrl** + **G** Group selected images
- **Ctrl** + **Shift** + **G** Ungroup selected images

CULL AND COMPARE

- **X** / **Ctrl** + **X** Culling: fixed / dynamic count
- **<** Switch culling mode
- **I** Show overlay on demand
- **W** Hold: zoom to 100%
- **Ctrl** + **W** Hold: 100% with focus areas
- **F** Make full preview sticky
- **Esc** Leave full preview

Ctrl+scroll zooms in culling; add Shift to zoom or pan only one image.

HISTORY AND EDITS

- **Ctrl** + **Z** / **Ctrl** + **Y** Undo / redo
- **Ctrl** + **C** Copy full history stack
- **Ctrl** + **V** Paste copied history
- **Ctrl** + **Shift** + **C** Copy selected modules only
- **Ctrl** + **Shift** + **V** Paste selected modules only
- **Ctrl** + **X** Darkroom: sync last change to selection

Export has no default key in the manual: use the export module and its start export button.

DARKROOM

- **Shift** + **O** Toggle raw overexposure warning
- **Ctrl** + **S** Toggle soft proof
- **Ctrl** + **Shift** + **N** Toggle navigation panel
- **Ctrl** + **Shift** + **H** Toggle scopes / histogram

DARKROOM (cont.)

- **A** Hold while dragging to pan / zoom the image
- **Middle-click** Cycle fit / 1:1 / 2:1 zoom
- **Ctrl** + **scroll** Zoom beyond 100%
- **Ctrl** + **Shift** + **drag** Move module in the pixelpipe

Module headers: Shift+click expands another module, Ctrl+click on the name renames an instance. Masks: Shift+scroll sets feathering, Ctrl+scroll opacity.

PANELS AND WINDOW

- **Tab** Hide / restore all panels
- **F11** Toggle fullscreen
- **B** Toggle borders and panel arrows
- **Ctrl** + **F** Toggle filmstrip / timeline
- **Ctrl** + **H** Toggle top banner
- **Ctrl** + **Shift** + **T** Toggle top panel

PANELS AND WINDOW (cont.)

- **Ctrl** + **Shift** + **B** Toggle bottom panel
- **Ctrl** + **Shift** + **L** Toggle left panel
- **Ctrl** + **Shift** + **R** Toggle right panel

RECIPES

Cull a shoot

```
# hover a thumbnail, then:
R   # reject blurry ones
2   # keepers: two stars
F3  # green = pick
X   # compare in culling
```

Reuse one edit on a batch

```
D       # open finished image
Ctrl+C  # copy its history
# lighttable: select targets
Ctrl+V  # paste onto all
```

Sync a single tweak

```
# darkroom: tweak a module
Ctrl+F  # show filmstrip
Ctrl+A  # select all
Ctrl+X  # sync the tweak
```

Check focus fast

```
# lighttable: hover frame
Ctrl+W  # hold: focus areas
F       # sticky, Esc leaves
```