darktable Photo workflow shortcuts

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.

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

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

T
Tethering: shoot from camera

M Map: place images by GPS

S Slideshow

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

Ctrl + D
Duplicate image (new version)

SELECT AND BROWSE

Space
Toggle selection under pointer

SELECT AND BROWSE (cont.)

Ctrl + click
Add/remove from selection

Shift + click Select a range

Ctrl + A Select all

Ctrl + Shift + A Deselect all

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

HISTORY AND EDITS (cont.)

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 + H
Toggle scopes / histogram

Middle-click
Cycle fit / 1:1 / 2:1 zoom

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 + 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
```