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
- 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

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 + 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
```