darktable Photo workflow shortcuts

START HERE

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

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

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.

RATE AND LABEL (cont.)

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

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

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

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
```