GNOME Terminal Tabs and shortcuts

START HERE

Ctrl + Shift + T
New tab

Ctrl + Shift + N
New window

Ctrl + Shift + C / Ctrl + Shift + V
Copy / paste

Alt + 1-9
Jump to tab

Ctrl + Shift + F
Search output

Ctrl + Plus / Ctrl + Minus
Zoom in / out

Ctrl + 0
Reset zoom

Ctrl + Shift + W
Close tab

CONCEPTS

Plain Ctrl+C and Ctrl+V go to the running program (Ctrl+C sends an interrupt). Copy and paste in the terminal use Ctrl+Shift.

Shortcuts here are the defaults; change them under Preferences, Shortcuts. On macOS the app does not exist, so use Terminal.app or iTerm2 instead.

Selecting text also fills the primary selection: middle-click pastes it, separate from the Ctrl+Shift+C clipboard.

TABS

Ctrl + Shift + T New tab

Ctrl + Shift + W Close tab

Closes the window when it is the last tab.

Ctrl + PageUp / Ctrl + PageDown
Previous / next tab

Alt + 1-9 Switch to tab 1-9

Alt + 0 Switch to tab 10

Ctrl + Shift + PageUp / Ctrl + Shift + PageDown
Move tab left / right

Right-click › tab
Close or move a tab from the menu

WINDOWS

Ctrl + Shift + N
New window

WINDOWS (cont.)

Ctrl + Shift + Q
Close window

Closes every tab in it; asks first if a process is running.

F11 Toggle full screen

F10 Open the menu bar

Only if enabled in preferences; the app menu otherwise carries the same items.

COPY AND PASTE

Ctrl + Shift + C
Copy selection

Ctrl + Shift + V
Paste clipboard

Middle › click
Paste primary selection

Pastes the last selected text without copying it.

Shift + Insert
Paste primary selection

Double › click / Triple › click
Select word / line

Right-click › selection
Copy as HTML from the menu

Keeps colours and font styling, useful for pasting into documents.

Ctrl + Click › link
Open link under the pointer

Also available via Open Link in the context menu.

ZOOM

Ctrl + Plus Zoom in

ZOOM (cont.)

Ctrl + Minus Zoom out

Ctrl + 0 Normal size

SEARCH

Ctrl + Shift + F
Open find bar

Enter searches backward by default; use the arrows in the bar to choose direction.

Ctrl + Shift + G Find next

Ctrl + Shift + H
Find previous

Ctrl + Shift + J
Clear highlight

The find bar can match case, whole words or a regular expression, and can wrap around. Raise the scrollback limit in preferences to search further back.

SCROLLING

Shift + PageUp / Shift + PageDown
Scroll one page

Shift + Home / Shift + End
Scroll to top / bottom

Ctrl + Shift + Up / Ctrl + Shift + Down
Scroll one line

Ctrl + Shift + Left / Ctrl + Shift + Right
Jump to previous / next command

Needs shell integration (the VTE prompt marks) to know where commands start.

SCROLLING (cont.)

These scroll keys are fixed and cannot be rebound in Preferences.

COMMAND LINE

`gnome-terminal --tab`
Open a new tab in an existing window

Run it from a shell; combine with --working-directory <dir>.

`gnome-terminal --window`
Open a new window

`gnome-terminal --working-directory=<dir>`
Start in a directory

`gnome-terminal --title=<text>`
Set the title

`gnome-terminal -- <cmd> <args>`
Run a command in the terminal

Everything after -- is the command; the old -e option is deprecated.

`gnome-terminal --profile=<name>`
Use a named profile

RECIPES

Two tabs in a project

```
gnome-terminal --tab --working-directory=~/src/app \
  --tab --working-directory=~/src/app/logs
```

Run a command in a new window

```
gnome-terminal --window -- htop
# window closes when htop exits
```

Titled tab running a shell after a command

```
gnome-terminal --title=build -- bash -c 'make; exec bash'
```