# i3 Tiling window manager

## CONCEPTS

Mod is Alt by default; many configs set it to Super (set $mod Mod4). All keys here are the default config's; j k l ; are left, down, up, right.

**Output** a monitor
- **Workspace** one named desktop
  - **Container** split, stacked or tabbed
    - **Window** leaf of the tree

i3 is a tree: every split makes a container; layouts apply to a container's children. Mod+a focuses the parent.

Config lives in ~/.config/i3/config; Mod+Shift+c reloads it, Mod+Shift+r restarts i3 and keeps windows.

## FOCUS

Mod + Arrows
Focus left / down / up / right

Mod + a
Focus parent container

Mod + Space
Toggle focus tiling / floating

Mod + Shift + q
Kill focused window

`[class="<name>"] focus`
Jump to a window by criteria

## MOVE WINDOWS

Mod + Shift + Arrows
Move window left / down / up / right

Mod + Shift + 1-9
Move window to workspace

`move container to output <dir>`
Send window to another monitor

## LAYOUTS AND SPLITS

Mod + h
Next window opens beside this one

## LAYOUTS AND SPLITS (cont.)

Mod + v
Next window opens below this one

Mod + f Toggle fullscreen

Mod + s Stacking layout

Mod + w Tabbed layout

Mod + e
Back to split layout; toggles h / v

## WORKSPACES

Mod + 1-9
Switch to workspace N

`workspace back_and_forth`
Toggle with previous workspace

`workspace next / workspace prev`
Cycle through used workspaces

`workspace number "<n>: <name>"`
Switch to a named workspace

`move workspace to output <dir>`
Send workspace to another monitor

`workspace <ws> output <output>`
Pin a workspace to a monitor (config)

## FLOATING AND SCRATCHPAD

Mod + Shift + Space
Toggle floating

Mod + Left-drag
Move a floating window

Mod + Right-drag
Resize a floating window

Mod + Shift + -
Send window to scratchpad

Mod + -
Show / hide scratchpad window

`for_window [class="<name>"] floating enable`
Always float an app (config)

## RESIZE

Mod + r Enter resize mode

j / k / l / ;
Shrink width / grow height / shrink height / grow width

Enter / Esc Leave resize mode

## SESSION AND CONFIG

Mod + Enter Open terminal

Mod + d
Open launcher (dmenu)

Mod + Shift + c Reload config

Mod + Shift + r
Restart i3 in place

Mod + Shift + e Exit i3

`i3 -C`
Check the config for errors

`i3-msg <command>`
Run any i3 command from a shell

`bindsym $mod+<key> <command>`
Bind a key to a command (config)

`exec --no-startup-id <command>`
Start once at login (config)

`exec_always --no-startup-id <command>`
Also run on restart (config)

`mode "<name>" { ... }`
Define a binding mode (config)

`set $mod Mod4`
Use Super as the modifier (config)

## RECIPES

### Scratchpad terminal

```
# config
bindsym $mod+Shift+minus move scratchpad
bindsym $mod+minus scratchpad show
for_window [class="scratch"] move scratchpad
# xterm -class scratch &
```

### Resize mode

```
mode "resize" {
    bindsym l resize grow width 10 px or 10 ppt
    bindsym Escape mode "default"
}
bindsym $mod+r mode "resize"
```