kitty GPU terminal emulator

START HERE

Ctrl + Shift + T
New tab

Ctrl + Shift + Enter
New window (split)

Ctrl + Shift + L
Cycle layouts

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

Ctrl + Shift + H
Browse scrollback

Ctrl + Shift + E
Open a URL by hint

Ctrl + Shift + Equal
Bigger font

Ctrl + Shift + F5
Reload kitty.conf

OS window Ctrl+Shift+N
Tab Ctrl+Shift+T
Window a split with one shell

CONCEPTS

kitty_mod is Ctrl+Shift by default, so Ctrl+Shift+T is kitty_mod+t in the config. Change kitty_mod to move every default at once.

Windows are the splits inside a tab; the layout decides how they are arranged. Tabs and OS windows sit around them.

Shortcuts here are the Linux defaults. On macOS most use Cmd instead (Cmd+T new tab, Cmd+C copy, Cmd+Enter new window, Cmd+Q quit) and Cmd+, edits the config.

Multi-key shortcuts such as Ctrl+Shift+P then F are a chord: release the first keys, then press the next.

TABS

Ctrl + Shift + T New tab

Ctrl + Shift + Right / Ctrl + Shift + Left
Next / previous tab
Ctrl+Tab and Ctrl+Shift+Tab work too.

Ctrl + Shift + Q Close tab

Ctrl + Shift + Alt + T
Rename tab

Ctrl + Shift + . / Ctrl + Shift + ,
Move tab forward / backward

Ctrl + Shift + N
New OS window

Ctrl + Shift + F11
Toggle fullscreen

WINDOWS

Ctrl + Shift + Enter
New window in this tab
The new window follows the active layout; see Layouts.

Ctrl + Shift + W
Close window

Ctrl + Shift +] / Ctrl + Shift + [
Next / previous window

Ctrl + Shift + 1-9
Jump to window 1-9
Ctrl+Shift+0 jumps to the tenth.

WINDOWS (cont.)

Ctrl + Shift + R
Resize windows interactively
Follow the on-screen hints to grow or shrink the active window.

Ctrl + Shift + F / Ctrl + Shift + B
Move window forward / backward

Ctrl + Shift + `
Move window to top (main slot)

Ctrl + Shift + F7
Focus a window by label

Ctrl + Shift + F8
Swap with a window by label

LAYOUTS

Ctrl + Shift + L Next layout
Cycles through enabled_layouts; tall, fat, grid, splits, stack and others.

`enabled_layouts splits,stack`
Choose which layouts to cycle
In kitty.conf; the first listed one is the default.

`map f1 goto_layout stack`
Jump straight to a layout
Use stack as a toggle for zooming one window.

`map f2 launch --location=vsplit`
New window split left / right
Needs the splits layout; --location=hsplit splits top / bottom.

CLIPBOARD

Ctrl + Shift + C
Copy to clipboard

Ctrl + Shift + V
Paste from clipboard

Ctrl + Shift + S / Shift + Insert
Paste from selection
The selection is whatever you highlighted last (middle-click buffer).

Ctrl + Shift + O
Pass selection to a program

Plain Ctrl+C is not copy here; it still sends interrupt to the program.

SCROLLBACK

Ctrl + Shift + H
Browse scrollback in a pager

Ctrl + Shift + Up / Ctrl + Shift + Down
Scroll line up / down
Ctrl+Shift+K and Ctrl+Shift+J do the same.

Ctrl + Shift + PageUp / Ctrl + Shift + PageDown
Scroll page up / down

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

Ctrl + Shift + Z / Ctrl + Shift + X
Previous / next shell prompt
Needs kitty's shell integration.

Ctrl + Shift + Delete
Reset and clear terminal

HINTS

Ctrl + Shift + E
Open a URL with hints
Press the label shown next to the URL.

Ctrl + Shift + P › F
Insert a file path from the screen

Ctrl + Shift + P › Shift + F
Open a file path from the screen

Ctrl + Shift + P › L
Insert a whole line

Ctrl + Shift + P › W
Insert a word

Ctrl + Shift + P › H
Insert a git hash

Ctrl + Shift + P › N
Open file:line in your editor

FONT AND LOOK

Ctrl + Shift + Equal
Bigger font

Ctrl + Shift + Minus
Smaller font

Ctrl + Shift + Backspace
Reset font size

Ctrl + Shift + U
Unicode input (emoji, symbols)
Pick a symbol by name or code point.

CONFIG AND MAP SYNTAX

Ctrl + Shift + F2
Edit kitty.conf
Config lives in ~/.config/kitty/kitty.conf.

Ctrl + Shift + F5
Reload kitty.conf
Sending SIGUSR1 to kitty does the same.

Ctrl + Shift + F3
Command palette
Searchable list of all actions and their shortcuts.

`map <shortcut> <action>`
Bind a key in kitty.conf
Example: map ctrl+shift+x close_window. Names are lowercase.

`map <shortcut>`
Unbind a default shortcut
With no action the key is passed through to the program.

`map ctrl+a>c new_tab`
Chain keys as a sequence
Separate steps with >.

Use kitty_mod in your own maps (kitty_mod+t) to stay consistent with the defaults.

RECIPES

Splits layout with easy window keys

```
# kitty.conf
enabled_layouts splits,stack
map kitty_mod+\ launch --
location=vsplit
map kitty_mod+minus launch --
location=hsplit
map kitty_mod+z goto_layout
stack
map kitty_mod+shift+z
goto_layout splits
```

Grab a path or hash from output

```
# 1. command prints paths or
hashes
git log --oneline | head
# 2. Ctrl+Shift+P H, press the
hint label
# 3. the hash is typed at the
prompt
```

Tweak config without restarting

```
# 1. Ctrl+Shift+F2  edit
kitty.conf
font_size 13.0
# 2. Ctrl+Shift+F5  reload
# 3. Ctrl+Shift+F6  check what
is active
```