Midnight Commander Two-panel file manager

START HERE

- **Tab** Switch active panel
- **Ctrl** + **O** Show the shell
- **Insert** Tag / untag file
- **F10** Quit
- **F5** / **F6** Copy / move to other panel
- **F7** / **F8** Make dir / delete
- **F3** / **F4** View / edit file
- **Alt** + **?** Find file

CONCEPTS

Active panel (source)	Other panel (target)

Two panels: source and target

Copy and move go from the active panel to the other one; the dialog lets you change the target.

No function keys (terminal or desktop grabs them)? Press Esc, then 1-9 or 0 for F1-F10.

Enter runs the command line if you typed something; on an empty line it opens the file or directory.

Alt is Meta; if your terminal has none, press Esc first, then the key.

In the viewer: F2 toggles wrap, F4 hex mode, F5 goto line, F8 raw view. F10 leaves viewer and editor.

The keys + - * only act on selection while the command line is empty.

FUNCTION KEYS

- **F1** Help
- **F2** User menu
- **F3** View file
- **F4** Edit file

FUNCTION KEYS (cont.)

- **F5** Copy
- **F6** Move / rename
- **F7** Make directory
- **F8** Delete
- **F9** Open menu bar
- **F10** Quit
- **Shift** + **F10** Quit, keep shell in start dir
- **Shift** + **F3** View raw, unfiltered
- **Shift** + **F4** Edit, new file by name
- **Shift** + **F5** Copy to a chosen path
- **Shift** + **F6** Move to a chosen path

PANELS

- **Tab** / **Ctrl** + **I** Switch active panel
- **Up** / **Down** Move one entry
- **Home** / **End** First / last entry
- **PageUp** / **PageDown** Page up / down
- **Alt** + **G** / **Alt** + **R** / **Alt** + **J** Top / middle / bottom of screen
- **Alt** + **O** Show selected dir in other panel

PANELS (cont.)

- **Alt** + **I** Other panel to this directory
- **Alt** + **Y** / **Alt** + **U** Directory history back / forward
- **Alt** + **Shift** + **H** Show directory history
- **Alt** + **T** Cycle listing format
- **Alt** + **C** Quick cd dialog
- **Ctrl** + **X** › **I** Other panel shows info
- **Ctrl** + **X** › **Q** Other panel shows quick view

SELECT

- **Insert** / **Ctrl** + **T** Tag or untag file
- **Plus** Select by pattern
- **** Unselect by pattern
- ***** Invert selection
- **Ctrl** + **S** / **Alt** + **S** Quick search in listing

Press again for the next match; press twice to reuse the last pattern.

COMMAND LINE

- **Enter** Run line, or open entry
- **Alt** + **Enter** Paste file name to line
- **Ctrl** + **Shift** + **Enter** Paste full path to line

COMMAND LINE (cont.)

- **Ctrl** + **X** › **T** / **Ctrl** + **X** › **Ctrl** + **T** Paste tagged names (this / other)
- **Ctrl** + **X** › **P** / **Ctrl** + **X** › **Ctrl** + **P** Paste panel path (this / other)
- **Alt** + **Tab** Complete name
- **Alt** + **P** / **Alt** + **N** Previous / next command
- **Alt** + **H** Show command history
- **Ctrl** + **Q** Quote next key
- **Ctrl** + **A** / **Ctrl** + **E** Start / end of line
- **Ctrl** + **K** Kill to end of line

FILES

- **Ctrl** + **X** › **C** Change permissions
- **Ctrl** + **X** › **O** Change owner
- **Ctrl** + **X** › **L** Hard link
- **Ctrl** + **X** › **S** Absolute symlink
- **Ctrl** + **X** › **V** Relative symlink
- **Alt** + **!** Filtered view

FIND AND SHELL

- **Alt** + **?** Find file by name or content

FIND AND SHELL (cont.)

- **Ctrl** + **X** › **!** Panelize command output

Run e.g. find . -type l and browse the result as a panel.

- **Ctrl** + **O** Hide MC, show subshell

Press Ctrl+O again to return to MC.

- **Ctrl** + **** Show directory hotlist
- **Ctrl** + **X** › **H** Add current dir to hotlist

VIEWER (F3)

- **F10** / **Esc** Close viewer
- **Space** / **PageDown** Page down
- **Backspace** / **PageUp** Page up
- **g** / **G** Top / bottom
- **/** / **F7** Search forward
- **?** Search backward
- **n** / **N** Next match / reverse direction
- **Ctrl** + **F** / **Ctrl** + **B** Next / previous file

EDITOR (F4)

- **Shift** + **Arrows** Highlight text
- **Ctrl** + **Insert** Copy block
- **Shift** + **Insert** Paste block
- **Shift** + **Delete** Cut block

REMOTE AND OPTIONS

Remote paths (type via Alt+C)

Path	Meaning
`sftp://user@host/dir`	SFTP, port 22 default
`sh://user@host/dir`	Shell link over ssh
`ftp://host/dir`	FTP, anonymous by default

- **mc** › **-P** › *<file>* Write last dir on exit
- **mc** › **-e** › *<file>* Open straight in editor
- **mc** › **-v** › *<file>* Open straight in viewer
- **mc** › *<dir1>* › *<dir2>* Start with both panels

RECIPES

Copy between two dirs

```
mc /src /dst
# Insert on files (or + for a pattern)
# F5, confirm target, Enter
```

Edit a file on a server

```
# Alt+C, type: sftp://user@host/etc
# select file, F4, edit, F2 to save
```

Find and act on results

```
# Alt+? , enter name or content
# Panelize, then F5 / F8 on the listing
# Alt+C to leave the result panel
```

Jump to a shell and back

```
# Ctrl+O   run commands in subshell
# Ctrl+O   return to Commander
```