micro Friendly terminal editor

START HERE

Ctrl + **S**
Save

Ctrl + **Z** / **Ctrl** + **Y**
Undo / redo

Ctrl + **Q**
Quit / close file

Ctrl + **C** / **Ctrl** + **V**
Copy / paste

Ctrl + **E**
Command bar

Ctrl + **O**
Open file

Ctrl + **F**
Find

Ctrl + **G**
Help

Tab Ctrl+T opens one
Split vsplit / hsplit, Ctrl+W cycles
Buffer one open file

CONCEPTS

micro uses familiar desktop keys, not modes: just type, Ctrl+S saves, Ctrl+Q quits.

Press Ctrl+E for the command bar, then type a command such as set, vsplit or help. Tab completes.

Keys are written for Linux/ Windows terminals. On macOS Alt and Ctrl swap in line and word movement.

Function keys and some combos may not reach micro in every terminal. Run raw in the command bar to see what your terminal sends.

FILES

Ctrl + **S** Save

Ctrl + **Q**
Close file, quit on the last one

Ctrl + **O** Open a file

F2 Save (function-key alias)

Ctrl + **B** Run a shell command

micro suspends while the command runs, then returns.

NAVIGATION

Arrows Move the cursor

Ctrl + **Left** / **Ctrl** + **Right**
Move one word

Home / **End**
Start of text / end of line

PageUp / **PageDown**
Move one page

Ctrl + **Home** / **Ctrl** + **End**
Start / end of document

Ctrl + **L**
Jump to a line number

Alt + **{** / **Alt** + **}**
Previous / next empty line

Alt + **F** / **Alt** + **B**
Next / previous word (Emacs style)

Alt + **A** / **Alt** + **E**
Start / end of line (Emacs style)

SELECTING

Shift + **Arrows**
Move and select

SELECTING (cont.)

Ctrl + **A** Select all

Ctrl + **Shift** + **Left** / **Ctrl** + **Shift** + **Right**
Select word left / right

Shift + **Home** / **Shift** + **End**
Select to line start / end

Ctrl + **Shift** + **Home** / **Ctrl** + **Shift** + **End**
Select to start / end of file

EDITING

Ctrl + **X** Cut

Ctrl + **C** Copy

Ctrl + **V** Paste

Ctrl + **Z** Undo

Ctrl + **Y** Redo

Ctrl + **K** Cut the whole line

Ctrl + **D**
Duplicate line or selection

Alt + **Up** / **Alt** + **Down**
Move line(s) up / down

Tab / **Shift** + **Tab**
Indent / unindent selection

Alt + **Backspace**
Delete word left
Alt+Ctrl+H also works.

Ctrl + **R** Toggle line numbers

SEARCH

Ctrl + **F** Open the find prompt

Ctrl + **N** / **Ctrl** + **P**
Next / previous match
Use after pressing Enter in the prompt, from the buffer.

SPLITS AND TABS

Ctrl + **T** New tab

Alt + **,** / **Alt** + **.**
Previous / next tab

Ctrl + **W** Cycle through splits

MULTIPLE CURSORS

Alt + **N**
Add cursor on next match of selection or word

MULTIPLE CURSORS (cont.)

Alt + **Shift** + **Up** / **Alt** + **Shift** + **Down**
Add cursor on line above / below

Alt + **X**
Skip the current match

Alt + **P**
Remove the latest cursor

Alt + **C**
Remove all extra cursors

Alt + **M**
Cursor at start of each selected line

Ctrl + **Click**
Place a cursor by mouse

MACROS AND HELP

Ctrl + **U**
Start / stop recording a macro

Ctrl + **J** Run the latest macro

Ctrl + **G** Open the help file

COMMAND BAR

Ctrl + **E**
Open the command bar

Tab
Autocomplete in the command bar

save *<file>*
Save under a new name

goto *<line[:col]>*
Go to a line and column

replace *<search> <value>*
Replace with confirmation
Add -a to replace all; -l for a literal (non-regex) search.

replaceall *<search> <value>*
Replace every match, no prompt

vsplit [file]
Vertical split

hsplit [file]
Horizontal split

tab [file]
Open in a new tab

textfilter *<cmd>*
Pipe selection through a shell command

run *<cmd>*
Run a shell command in the background

COMMAND BAR (cont.)

help *<topic>*
Open a help topic (keybindings, options)

quit Quit micro

SETTINGS AND PLUGINS

set *<option> <value>*
Set an option and save it

setlocal *<option> <value>*
Set an option for this buffer only

toggle *<option>*
Flip an on/off option

show *<option>*
Show an option's value

reset *<option>*
Restore an option's default

showkey *<key>*
Show which action a key is bound to

bind *<key> <action>*
Rebind a key

plugin install *<name>*
Install a plugin

comment
Comment or uncomment the line (default plugin)

Config files

File	Holds
`~/.config/micro/settings.json`	Options
`~/.config/micro/bindings.json`	Custom key bindings
`~/.config/micro/plug/`	Installed plugins

RECIPES

Rename a word everywhere

```
# select the word, then press
# Alt+N until all matches have
cursors
# type the new name, Alt+C to
finish
```

Reformat selection with a tool

```
# select lines, Ctrl+E, then:
textfilter sort -u
textfilter jq .
```

Edit side by side

```
# Ctrl+E, then:
vsplit other.txt
# Ctrl+W to switch, Ctrl+Q
closes a split
```

Indent with 4 spaces

```
set tabsize 4
set tabstospaces on
retab
```