GNU Screen

Terminal multiplexer

Prefix key `Ctrl+a`

CONCEPTS

Shortcuts marked prefix: press Ctrl+a, release, then press the key.

Sessions keep running after you close the terminal or lose your SSH connection.

Session survives detach
- **Window** full-screen shell
- **Region** split view of a window

Unlike tmux, a split region only shows a window; it does not own one. Focus a region, then pick a window for it.

Typing a literal Ctrl+a (e.g. start of line in bash) needs Ctrl+a a.

SESSIONS

`screen -S <name>`
New named session

`screen -ls`
List sessions

`screen -r <name>`
Reattach to a session

prefix `d`
Detach from session

`screen -R <name>`
Reattach, or create if missing

`screen -x <name>`
Attach to an already attached session

`screen -d -r <name>`
Detach it elsewhere, reattach here

`screen -dmS <name> <cmd>`
Start a command detached

WINDOWS prefix +

`c`
Create window

`n` / `p`
Next / previous window

`0-9`
Jump to window number

WINDOWS (cont.) prefix +

`"`
Choose window from list

`Ctrl` + `a`
Toggle to the last used window

`A`
Rename window

`w`
Show window list in status line

REGIONS prefix +

`S`
Split top / bottom

`|`
Split left / right

`Tab`
Focus next region

`X`
Close current region

COPY MODE

prefix `[`
Enter copy / scroll mode

`Space`
Set start, then end of selection

`Esc`
Leave copy mode

prefix `]`
Paste last copied text

`defscrollback 10000`
Longer scrollback in .screenrc

LOGGING

prefix `H`
Toggle logging of this window

COMMAND MODE

prefix `:`
Open command prompt

prefix `?`
List all key bindings