Terminator

Tiling terminal emulator

START HERE

Ctrl + Shift + O
Split top / bottom

Ctrl + Shift + W
Close terminal

Ctrl + Shift + E
Split left / right

Ctrl + Shift + X
Maximise a terminal

Alt + Arrows
Move between terminals

Super + G
Group all terminals

Ctrl + Shift + T
New tab

Alt + L
Layout launcher

Window one process, many windows
Tab holds a split tree
Terminal one shell, own titlebar

CONCEPTS

Terminator tiles several terminals in one window. Splits live inside tabs, and every split is a separate shell.

Groups are separate from tabs: a group can span several tabs, and broadcast sends typing to the members of a group.

The terminal with the red titlebar is the current one and the broadcaster.

Shortcuts here are the defaults of 2.1.x; check Preferences, Keybindings for your build. Super is the logo (Windows) key.

SPLITS AND FOCUS

Ctrl + Shift + O
Split top / bottom
Mnemonic: O is a horizontal divider line.

Ctrl + Shift + E
Split left / right

Alt + Arrows
Focus terminal in that direction

Ctrl + Shift + W
Close terminal

Ctrl + Shift + X
Maximise terminal (toggle)
Hides the other terminals in the tab; press again to restore.

Ctrl + Shift + N / Ctrl + Shift + P
Focus next / previous terminal

Ctrl + Tab / Shift + Tab
Cycle terminals

Ctrl + Shift + Arrows
Resize the terminal

Ctrl + Shift + Z
Zoom terminal to larger font (toggle)

Ctrl + Shift + A
Split along the longer side

Super + R / Super + Shift + R
Rotate terminals clockwise / back

SPLITS AND FOCUS (cont.)

Double-click › splitter
Share space evenly
Shift also rebalances children; Super rebalances parents; Shift+Super all visible.

Drag › titlebar
Move terminal to another edge or tab
Drop on an edge of another terminal; hover a tab to switch to it. Works only within one process.

TABS AND WINDOWS

Ctrl + Shift + T New tab

Ctrl + PgUp / Ctrl + PgDn
Previous / next tab

Ctrl + Shift + I New window

Ctrl + Shift + Q
Close window

F11 Toggle fullscreen

Ctrl + Shift + PgUp / PgDn
Move tab left / right

Ctrl + Shift + D
Detach tab into own window

Super + I
New instance (separate process)
Drag and drop does not work between instances.

GROUPS AND BROADCAST

Click › 3-box › icon
Open group menu in titlebar
Create, assign or remove groups, and set broadcast to off, group or all.

Super + G Group all terminals

Super + Shift + G
Ungroup all terminals

Super + T
Group terminals in this tab

Super + Shift + T
Ungroup this tab

Ctrl + Click › titlebar
Add terminal to current group
Only on a terminal that is not the current one.

Shift + Click › 3-box › icon
Edit group of one terminal

Broadcast modes

Mode	Typing goes to
`off`	current terminal
`group`	terminals in its group
`all`	every terminal

GROUPS AND BROADCAST (cont.)

Terminals with no group act as one group. A Super shortcut on one of them reaches all ungrouped terminals.

Check who receives input before typing destructive commands: hidden terminals still get broadcasts.

TEXT AND SCROLLBACK

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

Ctrl + Shift + F
Search scrollback
Search bar opens at the bottom of the focused terminal.

Shift + PgUp / Shift + PgDn
Scroll a page

Ctrl + Click
Open URL or path under cursor

Ctrl + Plus / Ctrl + Minus
Zoom text in / out

Ctrl + 0 Reset text zoom

Ctrl + Shift + S
Toggle scrollbar

Ctrl + Shift + R
Reset terminal

Ctrl + Shift + G
Reset and clear terminal

Super + 1
Insert terminal number

Ctrl + Alt + A Edit tab title
Double-clicking the tab does the same.

Ctrl + Alt + X
Edit terminal title

Smart copy: Ctrl+C copies when text is selected, otherwise it interrupts the program.

LAYOUTS AND LAUNCHING

Alt + L Open layout launcher
Double-click a layout or press Return to load it.

LAYOUTS AND LAUNCHING (cont.)

Ctrl + Shift + K
Open keybindings preferences

F1 Open help

`terminator -l <layout>`
Start with a saved layout

`terminator -s`
Choose a layout from a list

`terminator -e "<command>"`
Run a command in the terminal

`terminator -x <command> <args>`
Run the rest of the line as command

`terminator --working-directory=<dir>`
Start in a directory

`terminator -u`
Disable DBus for this instance
Needed with -l if you want a separate instance.

Save layouts in Preferences, Layouts: arrange, then Add. Set per-terminal commands and directories after saving, because Save later erases them.

Config lives in ~/.config/terminator/config. Back it up before hand editing.

RECIPES

Three-pane dev window

```
terminator --working-directory=$HOME/project
# Ctrl+Shift+E for editor | logs
# Ctrl+Shift+O in the right pane for tests
```

Run one command on many hosts

```
# Ctrl+Shift+E / O until you have one pane per host
# ssh to each host in its pane
# Super+G to group all, then group menu: Broadcast group
# type once, runs everywhere
```

Reuse a workspace

```
# arrange tabs and splits
# Preferences > Layouts > Add, name it work
terminator -l work
```

Pop a pane into focus

```
# Ctrl+Shift+X to maximise the noisy build log
# Ctrl+Shift+X again to restore the tiling
```