Visual Studio Windows IDE shortcuts

START HERE

Ctrl + T
Go to anything

Ctrl + Q
Search Visual Studio

Ctrl + .
Quick actions

F12
Go to definition

Ctrl + Shift + B
Build solution

F5
Start debugging

F9
Toggle breakpoint

Ctrl + K › Ctrl + C
Comment selection

Solution .sln / .slnx, what you open
Project builds one assembly or app
Item source file, resource, config

CONCEPTS

Ctrl+Q finds any menu command, option or setting by name: use it when a shortcut slips your mind.

Chords like Ctrl+K Ctrl+C: press Ctrl+K, release, press Ctrl+C. Keys shown are the General profile; other profiles (e.g. Visual C#) differ.

Look up or rebind any shortcut under Tools > Options > Environment > Keyboard.

FILES & PROJECTS

Ctrl + S Save

Ctrl + Shift + S Save all

Ctrl + Shift + N New project

Ctrl + Shift + O
Open project or solution

Ctrl + Shift + A
Add new item to project

SEARCH

Ctrl + F Quick find in file

Enter / Shift+Enter cycle the matches; Esc closes.

SEARCH (cont.)

Ctrl + H Quick replace

Alt+R replaces next, Alt+A replaces all.

Ctrl + Shift + F Find in files

Ctrl + ;
Search Solution Explorer

GO TO

Ctrl + T / Ctrl + ,
Go to all: files, types, members

Prefix f, t, m, # or : to filter; CamelCase capitals match.

Ctrl + G Go to line

Ctrl + 1 › Ctrl + F Go to file

NAVIGATE CODE

F12 Go to definition

Ctrl+Click on a symbol does the same.

Shift + F12
Find all references

Ctrl + - / Ctrl + Shift + -
Navigate back / forward

Ctrl + F12
Go to implementation

Alt + F12
Peek definition inline

Esc closes; Ctrl+Alt+Home opens it as a tab.

NAVIGATE CODE (cont.)

Ctrl + K › Ctrl + T
Call hierarchy

EDIT

Ctrl + Z / Ctrl + Y
Undo / redo

Alt + Up / Alt + Down
Move line up / down

Ctrl + D
Duplicate line or selection

Ctrl + K › Ctrl + C
Comment selection

Ctrl + K › Ctrl + U
Uncomment selection

Ctrl + / Toggle line comment

Since 2022 17.11; Ctrl+K Ctrl+/ works in older builds.

Ctrl + L Cut line

Ctrl + Shift + L Delete line

Ctrl + M › Ctrl + M
Toggle fold at cursor

INTELLISENSE

Ctrl + Space Complete word

Ctrl + J List members

Ctrl + Shift + Space
Parameter info

MULTI-CARET

Ctrl + Alt + Click
Add a caret

Shift + Alt + .
Add caret at next match

Shift + Alt + ;
Add carets at all matches

Shift + Alt + Arrows
Box (column) selection

Or hold Alt and drag with the mouse.

REFACTOR & FORMAT

Ctrl + .
Quick actions and refactorings

Fixes, using directives, generate code, extract.

Ctrl + R › Ctrl + R
Rename symbol

Updates every reference across the solution.

Ctrl + K › Ctrl + D
Format document

Ctrl + K › Ctrl + E
Run code cleanup

Applies the cleanup profile; honours .editorconfig.

Ctrl + K › Ctrl + F
Format selection

Ctrl + R › Ctrl + M
Extract method

REFACTOR & FORMAT (cont.)

Ctrl + R › Ctrl + G
Remove and sort usings

BUILD, RUN & TEST

Ctrl + Shift + B
Build solution

F5 Start with debugger

Ctrl + F5
Start without debugging

Shift + F5 Stop debugging

Ctrl + Shift + F5 Restart

Ctrl + Alt + P
Attach to process

Ctrl + R › T
Run tests in context

Runs the test or class under the cursor.

Ctrl + R › A Run all tests

DEBUG

F9 Toggle breakpoint

Right-click the red dot for conditions and actions.

Stepping

Key	Action
F10	Step over
F11	Step into
Shift+F11	Step out
Ctrl+F10	Run to cursor

DEBUG (cont.)

Shift + F9
QuickWatch on expression

Ctrl + F9
Enable / disable breakpoint

Ctrl + Shift + F9
Delete all breakpoints

Ctrl + Alt + I
Immediate window

Type ?expr to print a value, >cmd to run a command.

Ctrl + Alt + C Call stack

WINDOWS & TABS

Ctrl + Alt + L
Solution Explorer

Ctrl + \ › Ctrl + E Error List

Ctrl + Tab
Switch open documents

Keep Ctrl held to pick from the switcher.

Ctrl + F4 Close document

Ctrl+W also closes it in the General profile.

Ctrl + Alt + O
Output window

F4 Properties window

Ctrl + 0 › Ctrl + G
Git Changes