# xdotool X11 input automation

## CONCEPTS

xdotool fakes X11 input and drives windows. It needs an X server; under pure Wayland it only reaches XWayland apps.

**search / getactivewindow** fills the stack
↓ %1 %@
**Window stack** lives for one run
↓ cmd
**windowactivate, key, ...** act on %1 by default

Commands chain in one call and share the window stack: xdotool search --name Firefox windowactivate key ctrl+t.

Without --window, input goes through XTEST to the focused window. With --window it uses XSendEvent, which many apps ignore.

## KEYBOARD

**xdotool key** *<keys>*
Press key combination(s)

**xdotool key ctrl+shift+t**
Combos are joined with +

**xdotool key Return Tab**
Several keys in a row

**xdotool type "***<text>***"**
Type a string

**xdotool type --delay** *<ms>* **"***<text>***"**
Slow down typing (default 12 ms)

**xdotool key --clearmodifiers** *<keys>*
Release held modifiers first

## MOUSE

**xdotool mousemove** *<x> <y>*
Move pointer to absolute position

**xdotool click** *<button>*
Click: 1 left, 2 middle, 3 right

## MOUSE (cont.)

**xdotool click 4**
Scroll up (5 scrolls down)

**xdotool getmouselocation**
Print x, y, screen, window

## FIND WINDOWS

**xdotool search --name** *<regex>*
Windows whose title matches

**xdotool search --class** *<regex>*
Windows by WM_CLASS

**xdotool search --onlyvisible** *<regex>*
Only mapped windows

**xdotool getactivewindow**
Focused window id

**xdotool selectwindow**
Click a window to get its id

**xdotool search --sync --class** *<regex>*
Wait until a match appears

## WINDOW CONTROL

**xdotool windowactivate** *<id>*
Switch desktop, raise, focus

**xdotool windowactivate --sync** *<id>*
Wait until it is active

**xdotool windowmove** *<x> <y>*
Move the window

**xdotool windowsize** *<w> <h>*
Resize (pixels or %)

## DESKTOPS

**xdotool get_desktop**
Current desktop number

**xdotool set_desktop** *<n>*
Switch to desktop n (0-based)

## SCRIPTING

**xdotool sleep** *<seconds>*
Pause inside a chain (fractions ok)