

VS Code: practical shortcuts for Audion

Windows-focused cheat sheet for everyday work in Markdown, code, terminal, search, and navigation.

Markdown / Preview

Shortcut	What it does	Why it matters
<code>Ctrl + Shift + V</code>	Open Markdown Preview	Quickly view the current <code>.md</code> as rendered Markdown
<code>Ctrl + K</code> , then <code>V</code>	Open Markdown Preview to the side	Best mode for writing on the left and reading preview on the right
<code>Ctrl + Alt + V</code>	Paste image from clipboard (<i>Paste Image extension</i>)	Fast screenshot flow into Markdown notes
<code>Ctrl + S</code>	Save	Useful even with Auto Save enabled

Search / Replace / bulk edits

Shortcut	What it does	Why it matters
<code>Ctrl + F</code>	Find in current file	Basic local search
<code>Ctrl + H</code>	Replace in current file	Quick local replacement
<code>Ctrl + Shift + F</code>	Search across files	Search in Hub / project / repo
<code>Ctrl + Shift + H</code>	Replace across files	Bulk replace across the workspace

Shortcut	What it does	Why it matters
<code>Alt + C</code>	Toggle Match Case	Search only exact letter case
<code>Alt + W</code>	Toggle Whole Word	Avoid partial matches
<code>Alt + R</code>	Toggle Regular Expression	Powerful pattern search
<code>Ctrl + Shift + J</code>	Toggle Search details	Include/exclude files, advanced filters
<code>Alt + Enter</code>	Open search results in Search Editor	Turns results into an editable/searchable editor view

Terminal / command flow

Shortcut	What it does	Why it matters
<code>Ctrl + `</code>	Toggle integrated terminal	Main terminal shortcut
<code>`Ctrl + Shift + ``</code>	Create new terminal	Open another terminal tab/session
<code>Ctrl + I</code>	Inline chat in editor or terminal (<i>if chat/Copilot features are enabled</i>)	Optional AI assist; useful only if you actually keep chat features available
<code>Ctrl + Alt + I</code>	Open Chat view (<i>if chat/Copilot features are enabled</i>)	Opens the full chat panel

Navigation / layout

Shortcut	What it does	Why it matters
<code>Ctrl + B</code>	Toggle Sidebar	More screen space / bring Explorer back
<code>Ctrl + Shift + E</code>	Focus Explorer	Jump straight to files
<code>Ctrl + P</code>	Quick Open file	Fastest file open in large repos
<code>Ctrl + Tab</code>	Switch between open editors	Useful with many files open
<code>Ctrl + \</code>	Split editor	Open a second editor pane

Shortcut	What it does	Why it matters
<code>Ctrl + W</code>	Close active editor	Fast tab cleanup

Commands / settings / keybindings

Shortcut	What it does	Why it matters
<code>Ctrl + Shift + P</code>	Command Palette	The master shortcut: almost everything starts here
<code>Ctrl + ,</code>	Open Settings	Fast access to settings UI
<code>Ctrl + K</code> , then <code>Ctrl + S</code>	Open Keyboard Shortcuts	Search, learn, and remap keys

Files / editing

Shortcut	What it does	Why it matters
<code>Ctrl + S</code>	Save file	Still useful for “save now” muscle memory
<code>Ctrl + /</code>	Toggle line comment	Fast commenting in many languages
<code>Alt + Up / Down</code>	Move line up/down	Great for text, Markdown, lists, shell commands
<code>Shift + Alt + Up / Down</code>	Copy line up/down	Duplicate blocks fast
<code>Ctrl + D</code>	Add next match to selection	Great for repeated word edits
<code>Ctrl + Shift + L</code>	Select all matches of current selection	Bulk editing in one shot
<code>F2</code>	Rename symbol	Safer rename in supported languages
<code>Ctrl + Space</code>	Trigger suggestion	Force IntelliSense/manual completion

Git / workspace life

Shortcut	What it does	Why it matters
<code>Ctrl + Shift + G</code>	Open Source Control	Quick Git panel access
<code>Ctrl + Shift + X</code>	Open Extensions	Install/update/check extensions

My recommended practical set to memorize first

1. `Ctrl + Shift + P` — Command Palette
2. `Ctrl + P` — open file
3. `Ctrl + Shift + V` — Markdown Preview
4. `Ctrl + K`, `V` — Preview to the side
5. `Ctrl + `` — terminal
6. `Ctrl + Shift + F` — global search
7. `Ctrl + Shift + H` — replace in files
8. `Ctrl + B` — sidebar
9. `Ctrl + ,` — settings
10. `Ctrl + K`, `Ctrl + S` — keyboard shortcuts
11. `Ctrl + W` — close editor
12. `Ctrl + Alt + V` — paste image into Markdown

Notes for your setup

- If you keep Copilot/chat disabled, treat `Ctrl + I` and `Ctrl + Alt + I` as optional and ignore them.
- For Markdown work, the strongest daily pair is:
 - `Ctrl + Shift + V`
 - `Ctrl + K`, `V`
- For large note vaults and code repos, the strongest search pair is:
 - `Ctrl + Shift + F`
 - `Ctrl + Shift + H`

- Your Kit works for both portable and installed VS Code. The main difference is only where `settings.json` lives; the shortcuts and extensions themselves remain the same.