



KeyCtrl

Professional hotkey manager for Windows.





Info

Professional hotkey manager for Windows.

ASCOMP Software GmbH

KeyCtrl is the perfect tool for anyone looking to boost productivity and streamline daily tasks on Windows. While popular shortcuts like Ctrl+C and Ctrl+V are invaluable for copying and pasting, KeyCtrl goes beyond the basics, allowing you to create customized keyboard shortcuts tailored to your specific needs.

Imagine executing complex tasks with a simple key combination: automatically inserting frequently used text in your email client or Word, translating website content in real time, taking instant screenshots, or quickly opening your most-used folder in Windows Explorer. With KeyCtrl, all this and more is possible.



KeyCtrl

© ASCOMP Software GmbH

All rights reserved.

Written: April 2026 in Stuttgart, Germany.

Producer

ASCOMP Software GmbH

Developer

Andreas Stroebel

Betatest

*This software has been
beta-tested internally and
externally.*



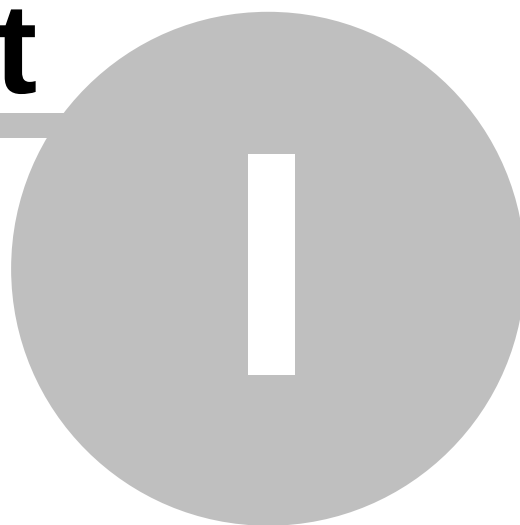
Contents

Part I Information	6
1 Edition comparison.....	6
2 Ordering and contact.....	6
3 Version history.....	7
Part II Start screen	9
Part III Configuration	11
Part IV Hotkey creation	13
1 Hotkey target.....	13
2 Keyboard shortcut.....	17
3 Hotkey name.....	18



Information

Part





1 Information

In this chapter you will find general information about KeyCtrl, the available editions, ordering and contact details as well as the version history of the software.

1.1 Edition comparison

KeyCtrl is available in two different editions. The following section is intended to show you the differences between the available editions and make it easier to decide which edition is right for you.

Trial version

The trial version of KeyCtrl can be tested for 14 days without restrictions. It provides all the functions of the software. After the test period, the individual menu items can no longer be operated.

Trial users do not receive free technical support via email.

Professional Edition (full version)

KeyCtrl Professional can be purchased for 19.90 USD (private license) or 39.90 USD (company license) via the [online shop](#) of ASCOMP Software GmbH. This edition can be used for an unlimited period of time.

Professional Edition users receive free software updates and free technical support for two years from the date of purchase.

1.2 Ordering and contact

Order

The Professional Edition can be ordered via the [online shop](#) of ASCOMP Software GmbH. In addition to the immediate delivery of your access data, which entitles you to download the full version, our shop system also offers dealers/resellers particularly favorable conditions for the resale of our products.

KeyCtrl Professional is available as a private license for 19.90 USD and as a corporate license for 39.90 USD (including all taxes that may apply).

Contact



KeyCtrl is a product of ASCOMP Software GmbH, Germany. You are welcome to contact us in one of the following ways.

By email (recommended): support@ascompsoftware.com

Address: ASCOMP Software GmbH, Hauptmannsreute 6, 70192 Stuttgart, Germany

1.3 Version history

Version 2.2 (released April 25, 2026)

- + System actions via hotkey
- + High-DPI support
- + Improved code security
- + Program interface revised
- + Secure HTTPS connections

Version 2.1 (released January 20, 2025)

- + New program interface
- + Silent Install after update download
- + English Help System
- + Bing Translate API hint corrected

Version 2.0 (released December 18, 2023)

- + Multilingualism
- + GUI revised
- + System Tray: Quit program
- + New icon
- + Debugging optimized
- + HA3Save text as Base64
- + SubscriptionCheck integrated

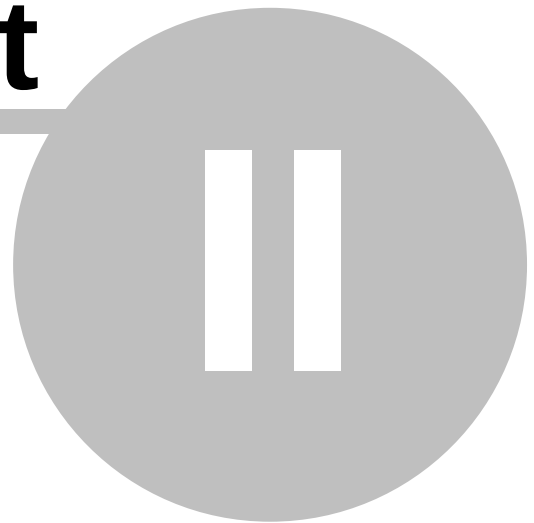
Version 1.0 (released March 08, 2019)

- + New release



Start screen

Part





2 Start screen

In this chapter, you will find information about the main page of KeyCtrl. The main page is the view that can be seen after the program starts.

The main page of KeyCtrl offers the possibility to create new hotkeys and edit or delete existing hotkeys. You'll also see a list of all the hotkeys you've configured.

Configured hotkeys

The list of configured hotkeys shows all hotkeys that you have created in KeyCtrl. The columns display the values in the following order:

Name: Displays the name of the hotkey as assigned by you.

Keyboard shortcut: Displays the keyboard shortcut you chose for this hotkey.

Action: Displays the selected action of the hotkey.

Active: Indicates whether the hotkey is enabled. Only activated hotkeys can be used. You can change the "Active" status by clicking "yes" or "no". Alternatively, the status can be adjusted by editing the hotkey.

Menu buttons

New hotkey

This button allows you to define a new hotkey.

Edit hotkey

This button allows you to edit the settings of the highlighted hotkey.

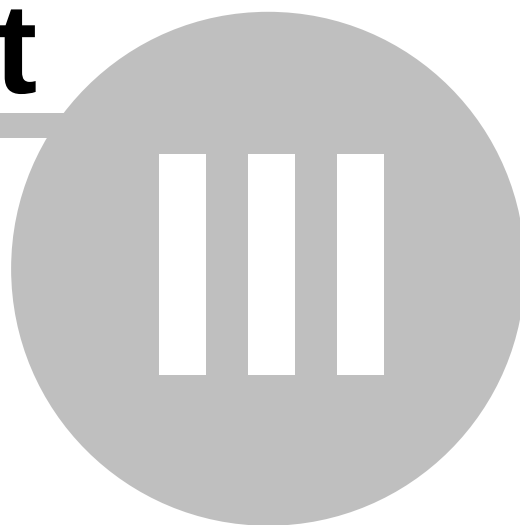
Delete hotkey

This button allows you to delete the highlighted hotkey.



Configuration

Part





3 Configuration

This chapter provides information about configuring KeyCtrl. You can access the configuration from the main menu option *Configuration*.

General

App data folder

The application data folder is used to cache internal program data. We recommend that you keep the application data folder defined by default.

Program startup

Specify here whether the KeyCtrl program window should be displayed at startup or minimized to the Windows tray bar.

GUID

We may ask you for your program GUID for certain support requests. In this case, please click on your GUID with the left mouse button. It will then be copied to the clipboard, from where you can paste your GUID into the message body of your email using Ctrl+V.



Hotkey creation

Part

IV



4 Hotkey creation

This chapter provides information on how to create a new hotkey or edit an existing hotkey in KeyCtrl.

4.1 Hotkey target

In this chapter, you will find information about configuring the hotkey target in KeyCtrl (step 1 of 3).

The hotkey target determines which action should be performed once you have pressed the defined key combination. Below are the different hotkey targets available.

Execute file

Executes a selected file. If it is an executable file, it will be executed directly. For non-executable files, the file is loaded in the application associated with the file format.

File to execute

Specifies the file to run. You can use the folder button to select the file conveniently using the open dialog.

Parameter

Specifies one or more parameters to start the file (optional; please check with the manufacturer/developer of the executable file for available parameters).

Execute in

Specifies the folder in which the file should run.

Window state

Specifies the window status.

Note: Not all executable files or programs associated with the file format accept the user's setting of the window state.



Open URL

Executes the specified URL (Internet address), either in your Internet browser or invisibly.

URL

Specifies the Internet address to be accessed.

Execute in

Specifies whether the URL should be loaded in the Internet browser or invisibly.

Internet browser

Window state: Specifies the window state of the Internet browser.

Invisible

Browser identifier: Specifies the browser ID to be delivered to the Internet address.

Username: Specifies the username if it's a URL that requests credentials (optional).

Password: Specifies the password if it is a URL that requests credentials (optional).

Return data: Specifies how the return data of the URL call is to be used.

Open folder

Displays the selected folder in the linked file browser (Windows Explorer by default).

Folder to open

Specifies the folder to view/open.

Window state

Specifies the window status.

Insert text



Pastes the specified text into the focused input field or document (for example, in Word).

Text

Enter the text to be inserted in the input field.

Translate text

Translates the selected text into your chosen language (*Bing Translate API: limited to 20,000 characters per month; permanent availability not guaranteed*).

Translate to

Specifies the language into which the selected text should be translated.

Procession

Specifies how the translation is to be processed.

Note: The *Replace selected text* option only works if the selected text is in an input field.

Create screenshot

Takes a screenshot of the selected recording area.

Recording area

Specifies whether to take a screenshot of the entire screen or only of the current foreground window.

Storage

Specifies whether the screenshot should be saved automatically or whether a Save dialog should be displayed to manually select the output folder.

Auto-save

Save in: Specifies the folder in which the screenshot should be saved.

File Format: Specifies the file format of the image file.



Filename: Specifies how the file name should be generated.

Show save dialog

No other options available.

Change window state

Changes the window state of the selected windows.

Window title must contain

Specifies which windows should be included in the action.

Action

Close window: Closes all windows that contain the specified text in the window title.

Minimize window: Minimizes all windows that contain the specified text in the window title.

Bring window on top: Brings to the foreground all windows that contain the specified text in the window title.

Save text

Saves the selected text to a text file.

Storage

Specifies whether the text should be automatically saved to a predefined file or whether a save dialog should be displayed.

Auto-save

Save in: Specifies the folder in which the text should be saved.

Filename: Specifies how the file name should be generated.

Show save dialog



No other options available.

System actions

Performs system actions such as Windows shutdown, reboot, standby.

System Action

Specifies the system action to perform.

Force Mode

Determines whether to force quit open programs.

Note: When Force Mode is enabled, it does not wait for the response of open applications, which can lead to data loss.

Confirmation

Determines whether a dialog box should appear before executing the selected system action to confirm the operation.

4.2 Keyboard shortcut

In this chapter, you will find information on how to define the keyboard shortcut of a hotkey (step 2 of 3).

The key combination defines which keys the selected action should be performed when pressed. You can also specify which windows the action should be active for. Coupling to a specific process is also possible.

Keyboard shortcut

Specifies the key combination that should trigger the selected action. Simply enter the desired key combination in the input field.

Note: Please note that some keyboard shortcuts are reserved by the system. For a list of known keyboard shortcuts, see <https://support.microsoft.com/help/12445/windows-keyboard-shortcuts>

Valid for

You can optionally activate or lock a hotkey only for certain windows. Specify here for which windows the hotkey should be valid.

All Desktop Windows: Enables the hotkey for all desktop windows.

Desktop windows with ... included in title: Enables the hotkey only for desktop windows that contain the entered text in the title.

Desktop windows with ... not included in the title: Enables the hotkey only for desktop windows that do not contain the entered text in the title.

Execution

You can optionally run a hotkey only if a specific process is started or not started. Specify when the hotkey should be executed here.

Always execute: Executes the hotkey independently of a specific process.

Run only when process ... is started: Executes the hotkey only when the specified process is started.

Note: Please enter the executable file of the desired process.

Run only when process... is not started: Executes the hotkey only if the specified process is not started.

Note: Please enter the executable file of the desired process.

4.3 Hotkey name

This chapter provides information on how to label a hotkey (step 3 of 3).

In order for KeyCtrl to store hotkeys, each hotkey must be assigned a unique name. In addition, each hotkey can be assigned to a freely selectable group to increase clarity.

Unique name

Here, set a unique label for saving the hotkey.

Group

Optionally, assign the hotkey to a group here.



Hotkey state

Specify here whether the hotkey should be activated. Only enabled hotkeys can be executed.

Note: You can change the hotkey status on the main page by clicking the "Active" column.