

Sidebar

Programming · VS Code Terminal Cheat Sheet

The integrated terminal's `terminal.integrated.*` settings, written out in full so you can search for them. Windows names are used for the profile settings (`.windows`); macOS and Linux have `.osx` and `.linux` twins. Sheet 5 in the VS Code series.

OPENING & MANAGING TERMINALS

- `Ctrl+`` Show or hide the terminal panel
- `Ctrl+Shift+`` Open a new terminal
- `Ctrl+Shift+S` Split the current terminal
- `Ctrl+PageUp` / `Ctrl+PageDown` Move between terminals (when the terminal has focus)
- `Terminal: Select Default Profile` Command Palette command: pick PowerShell, Command Prompt, Git Bash or WSL
- `Terminal: Rename` / `Clear` Command Palette commands: name the active terminal / clear its output
- `Ctrl+F` Find text in the terminal output (when the terminal has focus)

FONT & CURSOR

- `terminal.integrated.fontSize` Terminal font size in pixels (default 14)
- `terminal.integrated.fontFamily` Font for the terminal; empty (default) uses `editor.fontFamily`
- `terminal.integrated.lineHeight` Line spacing multiplier (default 1)
- `terminal.integrated.letterSpacing` Extra pixels between characters (default 0)
- `terminal.integrated.fontWeight` `normal` or a number from 1 to 1000
- `terminal.integrated.cursorStyle` `block` (default), `line`, `underline`
- `terminal.integrated.cursorBlinking` Blinking cursor (default `false`)
- `terminal.integrated.cursorWidth` Width in pixels when the style is `line` (default 1)
- `terminal.integrated.minimumContrastRatio` Auto-adjusts text colours for readability (default 4.5)
- `terminal.integrated.gpuAcceleration` `auto` (default), `on`, `off`; GPU rendering of the terminal
- `terminal.integrated.smoothScrolling` Animated scrolling (default `false`)

SHELL & PROFILES

- `terminal.integrated.defaultProfile.windows` Profile name used for (default) means the system PowerShell
- `terminal.integrated.profiles.windows` Defines the profiles; e.g. `{ "Git Bash": { "source": ...`
- `terminal.integrated.cwd` Folder a new terminal starts in (default: the workspace root)
- `terminal.integrated.splitCwd` Folder for a split terminal: `inherited`, `workspaceRoot`, `initial`
- `terminal.integrated.env.windows` Extra environment variables, e.g. `{ "MY_VAR": "value" }` (default `{}`)
- `terminal.integrated.inheritEnv` `true` (default): new terminals inherit environment
- `terminal.integrated.useWslProfiles` `true` (default): list installed WSL profiles
- `terminal.integrated.defaultLocation` `view` (default, the bottom panel) (terminals open as editor tabs)

COPY, PASTE & MOUSE

- `Ctrl+Shift+C` / `Ctrl+Shift+V` Copy / paste in the terminal
- `terminal.integrated.copyOnSelection` Copy text automatically as soon as selected (default `false`)
- `terminal.integrated.rightClickBehavior` `default`, `copyPaste`, `selectWord`, `nothing` (Windows)
- `terminal.integrated.enableMultilinePasteWarning` Warn before pasting multiline (default `auto`)
- `terminal.integrated.wordSeparators` Characters that end a word on copy (includes spaces and brackets)
- `terminal.integrated.scrollback` Lines of history kept per terminal (default 1000)
- `terminal.integrated.fastScrollSensitivity` Scroll speed while holding `Ctrl`
- `terminal.integrated.mouseWheelScrollSensitivity` Scroll speed multiplier

SESSIONS & CLOSING

<code>terminal.integrated.enablePersistentSessions</code>	Keep terminal sessions across window reloads (default <code>true</code>)
<code>terminal.integrated.persistentSessionReviveProcess</code>	<code>onExit</code> (default), <code>onExitAndWindowClose</code> , <code>never</code> : restart processes in restored terminals
<code>terminal.integrated.persistentSessionScrollback</code>	Lines of history restored with a persistent session (default 100)
<code>terminal.integrated.confirmOnExit</code>	Ask before closing the window with terminals open: <code>never</code> (default), <code>always</code> , <code>hasChildProcesses</code>
<code>terminal.integrated.confirmOnKill</code>	Ask before killing a terminal: <code>editor</code> (default), <code>never</code> , <code>panel</code> , <code>always</code>
<code>terminal.integrated.showExitAlert</code>	Show a message when the shell exits with an error code (default <code>true</code>)
<code>terminal.integrated.hideOnStartup</code>	<code>never</code> (default), <code>whenEmpty</code> , <code>always</code> : hide the panel when VS Code opens

AUTOMATION & ALERTS

<code>terminal.integrated.autoReplies</code>	Auto-answer a prompt, e.g. <code>{ "Terminate batch job (Y/N)": "Y\r" }</code> (default <code>{}</code>)
<code>terminal.integrated.bellDuration</code>	How long the tab shows a bell alert, in ms (default 1000)

TABS, KEYS & HELPERS

<code>terminal.integrated.tabs.enabled</code>	The terminal tab list beside the panel (default <code>true</code>)
<code>terminal.integrated.tabs.location</code>	<code>right</code> (default) or <code>left</code>
<code>terminal.integrated.sendKeybindingsToShell</code>	<code>true</code> : send nearly all keybindings to the shell (default <code>false</code>)
<code>terminal.integrated.commandsToSkipShell</code>	VS Code commands whose shortcuts should not be sent to the shell while the terminal has focus (default <code>['\$']</code>)
<code>terminal.integrated.allowChords</code>	Allow two-step shortcuts such as <code>Ctrl+Shift+P</code> in the terminal (default <code>true</code>)
<code>terminal.integrated.shellIntegration.enabled</code>	Lets VS Code track the current shell in the terminal (default <code>true</code>)
<code>terminal.integrated.stickyScroll.enabled</code>	Pins the running command output scrolls (default <code>true</code>)
<code>terminal.integrated.initialHint</code>	The hint shown in an empty new terminal (default <code>''</code>)

A REASONABLE STARTER SET (MY SUGGESTIONS, NOT DEFAULTS)

<code>"terminal.integrated.fontSize": 13</code>	A little smaller than the default, on screen
<code>"terminal.integrated.scrollback": 10000</code>	Keeps long build and test output
<code>"terminal.integrated.copyOnSelection": true</code>	Select to copy, as in the editor
<code>"terminal.integrated.cursorBlinking": true</code>	Easier to find the cursor
<code>"terminal.integrated.confirmOnExit": "hasChildProcesses"</code>	Only ask to confirm when there are child processes

A SHORTCUT DOESN'T WORK WHILE THE TERMINAL HAS FOCUS

The terminal passes most keys to the shell, so some VS Code shortcuts seem dead. Add the command to `terminal.integrated.commandsToSkipShell` to make its shortcut work there too, or set `terminal.integrated.sendKeybindingsToShell` to `true` if you want the shell to receive almost everything. Both settings only change what the terminal does with keys, not your keybindings themselves.

POWERSHELL SAYS RUNNING SCRIPTS IS DISABLED

That is a PowerShell execution-policy error, not a VS Code setting. See the *Python Environments* cheat sheet in this same Programming section for the one-line, current-user fix, or choose *Command Prompt* as the default profile instead.