

tmux cheat sheet

(C-x means ctrl+x, M-x means alt+x)

1.1. Prefix key

The default prefix is C-b. If you (or your muscle memory) prefer C-a, you need to add this to ~/.tmux.conf:

```
# remap prefix to Control + a
set -g prefix C-a
# bind 'C-a C-a' to type 'C-a'
bind C-a send-prefix
unbind C-b
```

I’m going to assume that C-a is your prefix.

1.2. Sessions, windows, panes

Session is a set of windows, plus a notion of which window is current.
Window is a single screen covered with panes. (Once might compare it to a ‘virtual desktop’ or a ‘space’.)
Pane is a rectangular part of a window that runs a specific command, e.g. a shell.

1.3. Getting help

Display a list of keyboard shortcuts:

```
C-a ?
```

Navigate using Vim or Emacs shortcuts, depending on the value of `mode-keys`. Emacs is the default, and if you want Vim shortcuts for help and copy modes (e.g. j, k, C-u, C-d), add the following line to ~/.tmux.conf:

```
setw -g mode-keys vi
```

Any command mentioned in this list can be executed as `tmux something` or `C-a :something` (or added to ~/.tmux.conf).

1.4. Managing sessions

Creating a session:

```
tmux new-session -s work
```

Create a new session that shares all windows with an existing session, but has its own separate notion of which window is current:

```
tmux new-session -s work2 -t work
```

Attach to a session:

```
tmux attach -t work
```

Detach from a session: C-a d.
Switch between sessions:

```
C-a (      previous session
C-a )      next session
C-a L      ‘last’ (previously used) session
C-a s      choose a session from a list
```

Other:

```
C-a $      rename the current session
C-a
```

1.5. Managing windows

Create a window:

```
C-a c      create a new window
```

Switch between windows:

```
C-a 1 ...   switch to window 1, ..., 9, 0
C-a 9
```

```
C-a 0
C-a p      previous window
C-a n      next window
C-a l      ‘last’ (previously used) window
C-a w      choose window from a list
```

Switch between windows with a twist:

```
C-a M-n     next window with a bell, activity or
            content alert
C-a M-p     previous such window
```

Other:

```
C-a ,       rename the current window
C-a &       kill the current window
```

1.6. Managing split panes

Creating a new pane by splitting an existing one:

```
C-a "       split vertically (top/bottom)
C-a %       split horizontally (left/right)
```

Switching between panes:

```
C-a left    go to the next pane on the left
C-a right   (or one of these other directions)
C-a up
C-a down
C-a o       go to the next pane (cycle through all of them)
C-a ;       go to the ‘last’ (previously used) pane
```

Moving panes around:

```
C-a {       move the current pane to the previous position
C-a }       move the current pane to the next position
C-a C-o     rotate window ‘up’ (i.e. move all panes)
C-a M-o     rotate window ‘down’
C-a !       move the current pane into a new separate
            window (‘break pane’)
C-a :move-pane -t :3.2
            split window 3's pane 2 and move the current pane there
```

Resizing panes:

```
C-a M-up, C-a M-down, C-a M-left, C-a M-right
            resize by 5 rows/columns
C-a C-up, C-a C-down, C-a C-left, C-a C-right
            resize by 1 row/column
```

Applying predefined layouts:

```
C-a M-1     switch to even-horizontal layout
C-a M-2     switch to even-vertical layout
C-a M-3     switch to main-horizontal layout
C-a M-4     switch to main-vertical layout
C-a M-5     switch to tiled layout
C-a space   switch to the next layout
```

Other:

```
C-a x       kill the current pane
C-a q       display pane numbers for a short while
```

1.7. Other config file settings

Force a reload of the config file on C-a r:

```
unbind r
bind r source-file ~/.tmux.conf
```

Some other settings that I use:

```
setw -g xterm-keys on
```