

Useful Search Shortcuts and Tips for Windows 10



Basic Windows 10 and Cortana Search

Windows	Open Start menu search bar
Windows + S OR Windows + Q	Open Cortana search bar in text mode
Down Arrow	Select result below
Up Arrow	Select result above
Right Arrow	Select option to the right
Left Arrow	Select option to the left
Enter	Open selected item
Esc	Close search menu

Narrow Down Local Cortana Search

Apps:	Search within Apps
Documents:	Search within Documents
Videos:	Search within Videos
Folders:	Search within Folders
Music:	Search within Music
Settings:	Search within Settings
Photos:	Search within Photos
Mail:	Search within your Outlook email inbox
People:	Search within People

Cortana Web Search Tools

Web:	Search the internet
"Paris weather"	Get weather information
"Sydney time"	Get time zone information
Define: "technology"	Find word definitions
"Facebook stock"	Get stock market information
"Donald Trump age"	Find facts about public figures
"50usd to eur"	Convert currencies
"5in to mm"	Convert measuring units
"74f to c"	Convert temperatures
"86/2*10"	Perform math calculations
"DAL1439"	Track flight status
"red sox score"	Find current sports scores
"food near me"	Find local restaurants

Cortana Voice Command Search

Windows + C	Open Cortana in voice command mode
Say "Hey Cortana"	Open Cortana in voice command mode
"Find document (file name)"	Find a specific file

"Find photos from January 2018"	Find photos from a specific time
"Open (app name)"	Open a specific app
"Search the web for Lenovo laptops"	Search the internet for a specific term
"What's the tallest mountain in the world?"	Find facts on the internet
"Find restaurants near me"	Search the internet for local restaurants
"What's the time in Paris?"	Find time zone information
"Show me the latest news"	Display the latest news headlines
"What's the weather?"	Find local weather information
"Find showtimes near me"	Find local movie showtimes
"What's 2+2?"	Perform math calculations
"What's 13 pounds in ounces?"	Perform measurement conversions

Basic File Explorer Search

Windows + E	Open File Explorer
Ctrl + F OR Ctrl+E OR F3	Place cursor in the search bar
Ctrl + L OR Alt + D	Place cursor in the address bar
Up Arrow	Select result above
Down Arrow	Select result below
Right Arrow	Select result to the right
Left Arrow	Select result to the left
Enter	Open selected file
Backspace OR Alt+ Left Arrow	Return to previous page
Alt + Right Arrow	Go to next page
Alt + Up Arrow	Return to the folder that the current file or folder is in
Esc	Clear search or address bar

File Explorer Advanced Query Syntax Search

store:desktop	Limit your search to the desktop
store:files	Limit your search to Files
store:outlook	Limit your search to Outlook
store:oe	Limit your search to Outlook Express

*.file_extension	Search for a files with a specific extension
kind:everything	Search all file types
kind:communications	Search communication files
kind:contacts	Search contacts
kind:email	Search emails
kind:im	Search instant messaging conversations
kind:meetings	Search meetings
kind:tasks	Search tasks
kind:notes	Search notes
kind:documents	Search documents
kind:text	Search text documents
kind:spreadsheets	Search spreadsheet files
kind:presentations	Search presentation files
kind:music	Search music files
kind:pics	Search picture files
kind:videos	Search video files
kind:folders	Search folders
kind:favorites	Search favorites
kind:programs	Search program files
date:today, date:tomorrow, date:yesterday	Search for items with a specific date
modified:last week	Search for items by modification date
size:>40, size:<40	Search for items by size

File Explorer Search Using Boolean Operators

Keyword 1 NOT keyword 2	Results with keyword 1 but not keyword 2
Keyword 1 OR keyword 2	Results with keyword 1 or keyword 2
"Keyword 1"	Results with the exact phrase "keyword 1"
(Keyword 1 keyword 2)	Results with keyword 1 and keyword 2 in any order