ChromeOS Developer Mode

Complete Shortcuts & Commands Reference

Getting Started

This comprehensive cheat sheet covers all essential shortcuts and commands for ChromeOS Developer Mode. Developer Mode unlocks advanced features including terminal access, system modification capabilities, and debugging tools. **Note:** Enabling Developer Mode will wipe all local data and disable certain security features.

⚠ Important Security Notice

Developer Mode disables verified boot and other security features. Only enable it if you understand the risks and need advanced system access. Your device will show a warning screen on every boot.

Enabling Developer Mode

1 Enter Recovery Mode

```
Esc + Refresh + Power
```

Power off device, then hold Esc + Refresh keys while pressing Power button to enter Recovery Mode.

2 Enable Developer Mode

```
Ctrl + D
```

From Recovery Mode, press Ctrl + D to enable Developer Mode, then Enter to confirm.

3 Boot from Warning Screen

```
Ctrl + D
```

From the Developer Mode warning screen, press Ctrl + D to boot normally (or wait 30 seconds).

4 Turn Off OS Verification

```
Space
```

From warning screen, press Space to turn off OS verification (alternative method).

Terminal Access

⌨ Open Crosh Shell

```
Ctrl + Alt + T
```

Opens the Chrome OS shell (crosh) in a new browser tab. Available in both normal and developer modes.

Full Bash Shell

```
shell
```

Type "shell" in crosh to access full bash shell with Linux commands (Developer Mode only).

VT Virtual Terminal 2

```
Ctrl + Alt + →
```

Access VT-2 (Virtual Terminal 2) for direct console login. The → key is the forward arrow (F2 position).

Return to Browser

```
Ctrl + Alt + ←
```

Return to the browser from virtual terminal. The ← key is the back arrow (F1 position).

Switch Between Shells

```
Alt + Tab
```

Switch between multiple open crosh shells or return to browser without killing the shell.
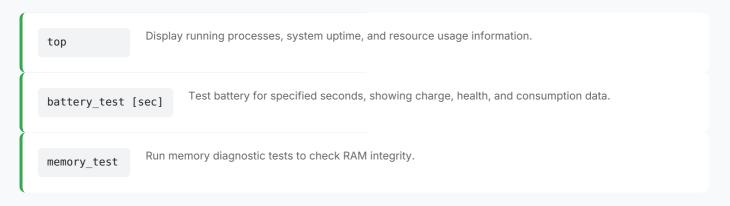
Kernel Messages

```
Ctrl + Alt + F8
```

View kernel messages on VT-8 (Virtual Terminal 8) for debugging system issues.
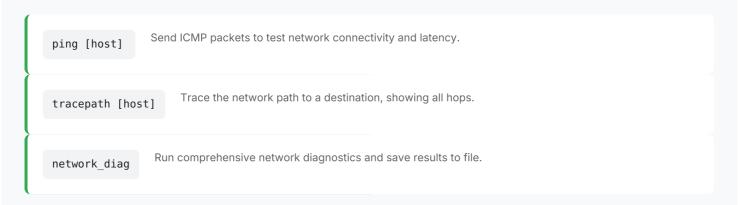
Crosh Commands

Basic Commands

`help`
Display list of basic crosh commands and their descriptions.

`help_advanced`
Show advanced commands, mainly used for debugging and development.

`exit`
Exit the crosh shell and return to the browser.
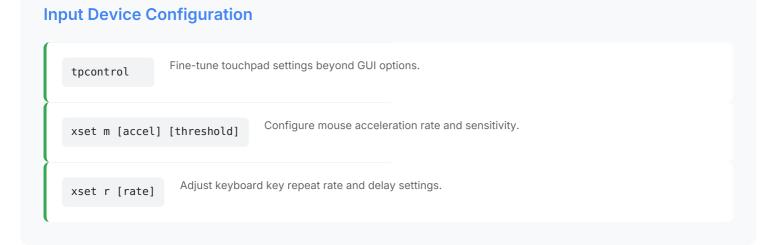
System Information & Monitoring

`top`
Display running processes, system uptime, and resource usage information.

`battery_test [sec]`
Test battery for specified seconds, showing charge, health, and consumption data.

`memory_test`
Run memory diagnostic tests to check RAM integrity.

Network Commands

`ping [host]`
Send ICMP packets to test network connectivity and latency.

`tracepath [host]`
Trace the network path to a destination, showing all hops.

`network_diag`
Run comprehensive network diagnostics and save results to file.

SSH & Remote Access

`ssh [user@host]`
Connect to remote servers via SSH with tunneling support.

`ssh_forget_host`
Remove saved SSH host keys and fingerprints.
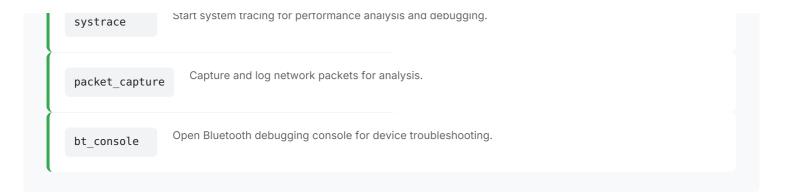
```
ssn_forget_host
```

⬛ Hardware Control Commands

Audio Controls

`sound record [sec]`   Record audio from microphone for specified seconds.

`sound play`   Play back the last recorded audio file.

Input Device Configuration

`tpcontrol`   Fine-tune touchpad settings beyond GUI options.

`xset m [accel] [threshold]`   Configure mouse acceleration rate and sensitivity.

`xset r [rate]`   Adjust keyboard key repeat rate and delay settings.

Developer Mode Exclusive Commands

System Access

`shell`   Access full bash shell with root privileges and Linux commands.

`sudo [command]`   Execute commands with elevated privileges (Note: Limited in recent ChromeOS versions).

Debugging & Development

systrace	Start system tracing for performance analysis and debugging.
packet_capture	Capture and log network packets for analysis.
bt_console	Open Bluetooth debugging console for device troubleshooting.

System Modification

crossystem	View and modify system properties and hardware settings.
flashrom	Read, write, and verify firmware/BIOS flash memory.

⚡ General Shortcuts

Stop Command

```
Ctrl + C
```

Interrupt and stop any running command or process in the terminal.

All Shortcuts

```
Ctrl + Search + S
```

Display complete list of all available ChromeOS keyboard shortcuts.

Restart ChromeOS

```
Ctrl + Alt + Shift + R
```

Restart the ChromeOS session without powering off the device.

Screenshot

```
Ctrl + Show Windows
```

Take a screenshot of the entire screen or selected area.

Pro Tips

VT-2 Login: Use username "chronos" with no password for VT-2 access. **Multiple Shells:** Open multiple crosh instances with Ctrl+Alt+T and switch between them using Alt+Tab. **File Access:** Recorded audio and diagnostic files are saved to your Downloads folder and accessible via the Files app.

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