Apple Music Cheatsheet

A quick reference for Apple Music keyboard shortcuts, navigation, and useful tips to enhance your listening experience.

Shortcuts & Controls

General App Shortcuts

Command+N	Create a new playlist
Command+O	Open a file
Command+P	Open Music Preferences
Command+Q	Quit Music
Command+Z	Undo last action
Command+Shift+Z	Redo last action
Command+W	Close window
Command+M	Minimize window
Command+H	Hide Music

Playback Controls

Space bar	Play or Pause
Command+Right Arrow	Skip to next track
Command+Left Arrow	Skip to previous track
Option+Command+Right Arrow	Fast forward through current track
Option+Command+Left Arrow	Rewind through current track
Shift+Command+L	Show Lyrics
Command+R	Repeat song/album/playlist (toggle)
Option+Command+R	Shuffle (toggle)
Command+Option+3	Switch to MiniPlayer

Library & Navigation

Navigation & Views

Command+1	View Library
Command+2	View Browse
Command+3	View Radio
Command+4	View Store
Command+, (Comma)	Open Preferences
Command+F	Search your library
Command+L	Show currently playing song in library
Control+G	Go to current song's artist
Shift+Control+G	Go to current song's album

Library Actions

Delete key	Delete selected item
Command+I	Get Info for selected item(s)
Command+A	Select All items in current view
Shift+Click	Select a range of items
Command+Click	Select/Deselect individual items
Drag & Drop	Add items to playlists, sync devices, etc.
Control+Click	Open contextual menu for more options
Option+Click on 'Add to Library'\nbutton	Adds entire album/playlist to library without adding to 'Recently Added'
Command+D	Deselect all items

Tips & Tricks

Smart Playlists

Automate Library Organization: Use `File > New > Smart Playlist...` to create playlists based on rules (e.g., genre, rating, last played). They update automatically.
Combine Rules: Add multiple rules using 'Match \any/all\ of the following rules'. Use nested rules for complex logic.
Limit Size: Set limits on the number of songs, total time, or disk space for the playlist.
Example: Create a Smart Playlist for 'Songs liked in the last 30 days with 5 stars that haven't been played recently'.
Live Updating: Ensure 'Live updating' is checked for the playlist to automatically add/remove songs as they match the rules.
Backup: Smart playlist rules can be exported and imported (though less straightforward than standard playlists).
Use Play Count: Track songs you listen to most by creating a playlist based on play count.
Rating System: Utilize the star rating system (`Song > Rating`) to feed into Smart Playlists.
Last Played/Skipped: Create lists of songs you've recently played or skipped to manage your preferences.

Sound & Playback Settings

Equalizer: Access the Equalizer via `Window > Equalizer`. Use presets or create your own to tailor sound output.

Sound Enhancer: Found in `Music > Preferences... > Playback`. Slightly boosts bass and treble for a 'richer' sound.

Crossfade Songs: Located in `Music > Preferences... > Playback`. Smoothly transition between tracks.

Sound Check: Normalizes volume levels across different songs. Also in `Music > Preferences... > Playback`.

High-Quality Playback: Ensure you have 'Lossless Audio' and 'Dolby Atmos' enabled in `Music > Preferences... > Playback` if you are an Apple Music subscriber and have compatible hardware.

Audio Quality Settings (Mobile): On iOS/iPadOS, set streaming and download quality in `Settings > Music > Audio Quality`.

Reducing Storage: On mobile, use 'Optimize Storage' (`Settings > Music > Optimize Storage`) to automatically delete downloaded songs you haven't played recently.

Playback Destinations: Use the AirPlay/Output icon (top bar) to stream music to different speakers or devices.

Gapless Playback: Apple Music supports gapless playback by default for albums that require it.

Using Widgets & MiniPlayer

MiniPlayer (macOS): Switch using `Command+Option+3` or `Window > Switch to MiniPlayer`. A small, unobtrusive window for basic controls.

MiniPlayer Controls: Hover to see playback buttons, volume, and now playing info. Click album art to return to the main window.

Adding Widgets (macOS Desktop): Right-click desktop, select 'Edit Widgets', drag Music widget to desktop.

Widget Sizes: Choose between small (currently playing), medium (currently playing + recent), and large (currently playing + more recent).

Adding Widgets (iOS/iPadOS): Long press on home screen, tap '+', search for Music, choose size, and add.

Widget Functionality: Widgets provide quick access to playback controls and recently played/suggested music without opening the app.

Lock Screen Player: Basic playback controls are always available on the lock screen when music is playing.

Control Center: Access Music controls quickly from Control Center on iOS/iPadOS and macOS.