

How to remap the Caps Lock function to Hyper Key.

A Hyper Key is a single key that sends a modifier key combination—typically **Ctrl + Shift + Alt + Win**. Since almost no applications have dedicated spaces for this four-key combination, any shortcuts created using it will not conflict with existing shortcuts.

Throughout the day, people use many Windows keyboard shortcuts, such as **Win + E** to open File Explorer or **Ctrl + Shift + Esc** to open Task Manager . However, when trying to add custom shortcuts for frequently used applications and tasks, the best shortcuts are often taken by the system or already used by other applications.

The solution is simple. You can reassign a less frequently used key to act as a Hyper Key. With just a few quick registry tweaks and a simple script, you've got an extra layer of shortcuts that work everywhere without conflicts. If you've ever wanted more shortcuts without having to remember which keys conflict with which, this is well worth the time to set up.

What exactly is Hyper Key?

Combine 4 modifier keys into one powerful shortcut.



Hyper Key is a single key that sends a modifier key combination—typically **Ctrl + Shift + Alt + Win** . Since almost no applications reserve this four-key combination, any shortcuts created with it will not conflict with existing shortcuts. You have a whole new way to set up custom shortcuts.

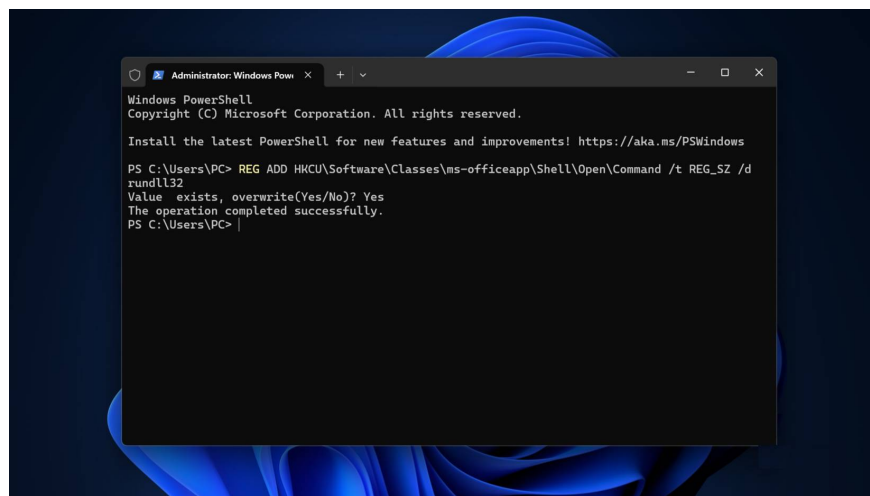
This concept originated in Unix systems and became popular among professional macOS users seeking more modifier key options. Windows doesn't have Hyper Key by default and also reserves the 4-key modifier combination for opening Office applications.

The Caps Lock key is the obvious choice for Hyper Key. It sits on the base row of keys, where your left little finger usually rests. Reassigning it to Hyper Key transforms that dead keyboard space into something useful without sacrificing Caps Lock functionality. That's because you can configure a single press to still toggle Caps Lock on/off. The practical benefit is that instead of searching for hard-to-find key combinations that might work, you start from scratch. **Hyper + E**, **Hyper + T**, and **Hyper + B** can be assigned to open applications or actions of your choosing.

Initially, the author tried PowerToys Keyboard Manager for more efficiency, but it couldn't assign a single key to all four modifier keys simultaneously. However, PowerToys works well if you only want Caps Lock to function as a dual modifier key. For truly hyperkey shortcuts, AutoHotkey is the best option.

First, disable the Windows Office shortcut.

Run the registry fix.



```
Administrator: Windows Powe... x + v
Windows PowerShell
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

Install the latest PowerShell for new features and improvements! https://aka.ms/PSWindows

PS C:\Users\PC> REG ADD HKCU\Software\Classes\ms-officeapp\Shell\Open\Command /t REG_SZ /d
rundll32
Value exists, overwrite(Yes/No)? Yes
The operation completed successfully.
PS C:\Users\PC> |
```

Before setting up Hyper Key, you need to fix a small bug in Windows. Microsoft defaults the **Ctrl + Shift + Alt + Win** key combination to open Office applications. When you press all four keys simultaneously, it will open Microsoft Copilot or your browser will open the Office 365 login page, even if you are not using Office.

This means any Hyper Key shortcut will trigger this behavior instead of the desired action. The workaround is a single-line registry command that redirects this shortcut to do nothing. Before making any changes, remember to back up the registry.

1. Press **Win + X** and select **Terminal (Admin)**.
2. Paste the following command and press **Enter**:

```
REG ADD HKCUSoftwareClassesms-officeappShellOpenCommand /t REG_SZ /d rundll32
```

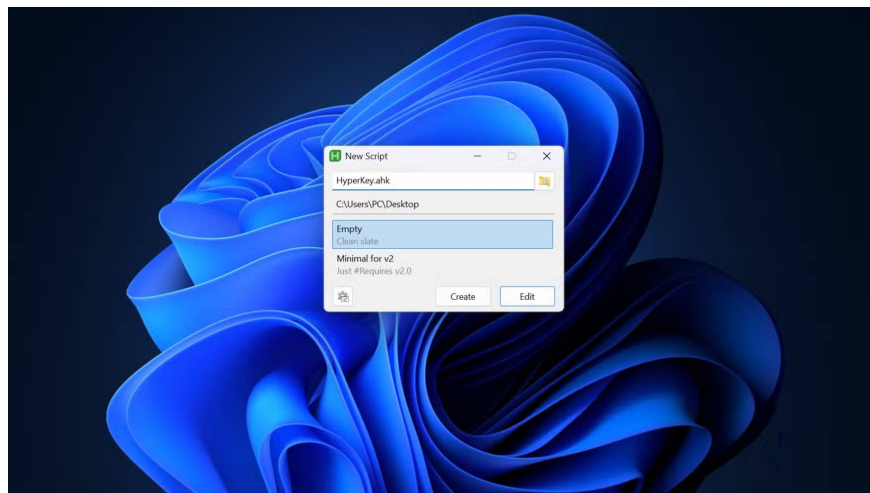
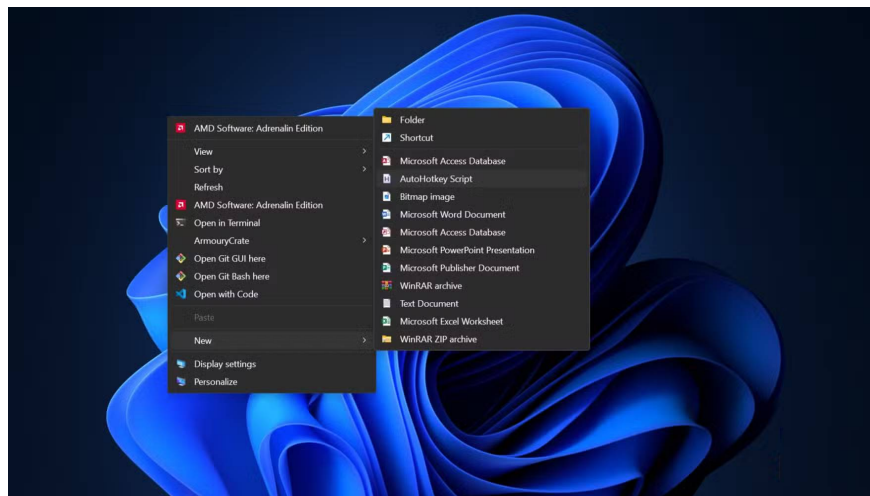
3. You will see the message: *"The operation completed successfully"*.

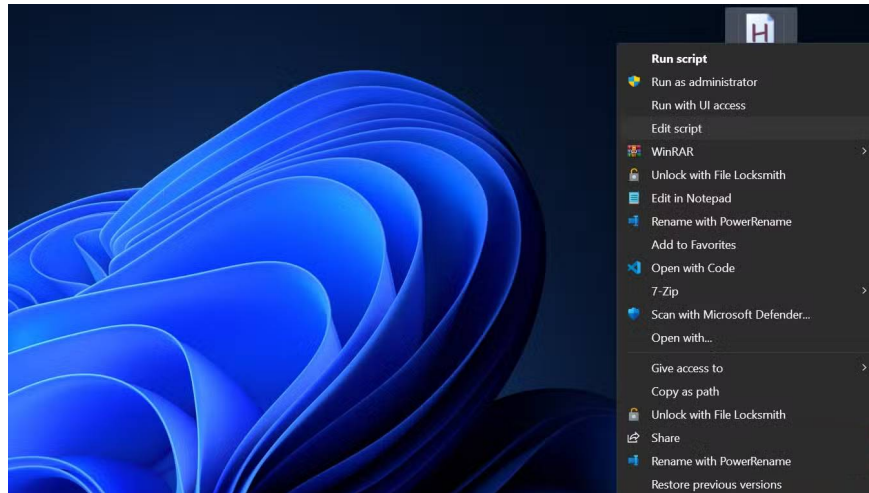
The changes take effect immediately, so you don't need to restart your computer . To check, press **Ctrl + Shift + Alt + Win** . If nothing happens, you're ready to continue. If Copilot or Office is still open, run the command again with administrator privileges.

This trick only disables the four modifier keys. It does not affect individual Office applications or any other Windows shortcuts.

How to set up Hyper Key with AutoHotkey

Hold down the Caps Lock key while pressing to toggle.



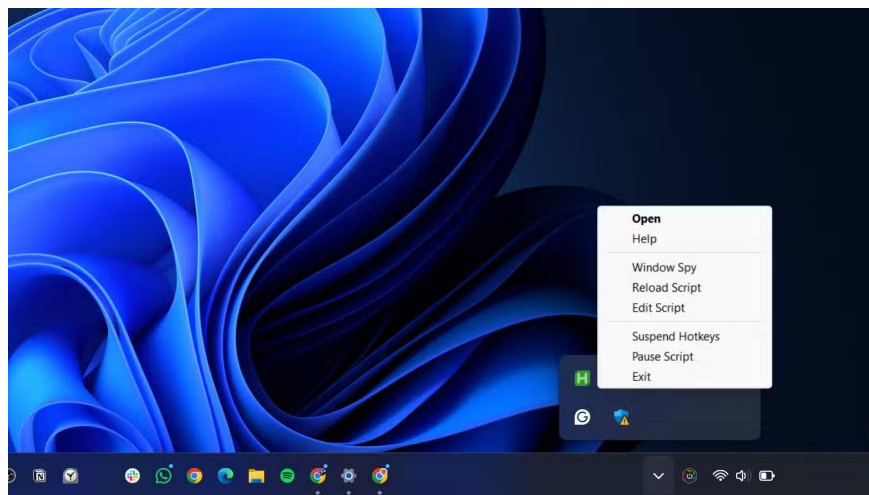


```
HyperKey.ahk .ahk
File Edit View

#Requires AutoHotkey v2.0

*CapsLock::
{
    startTime := A_TickCount
    Send("{Ctrl down}{Shift down}{Alt down}{LWin down}")
    KeyWait("CapsLock")
    Send("{Ctrl up}{Shift up}{Alt up}{LWin up}")

    if (A_TickCount - startTime < 200) && (A_PriorKey = "CapsLock")
    {
        SetCapsLockState(!GetKeyState("CapsLock", "T"))
    }
}
```



AutoHotkey is a free programming tool for Windows automation. It's the only reliable way to turn Caps Lock into a true Hyper Key – the simultaneous **Ctrl + Shift + Alt + Win** key combination . Don't worry about the programming; the setup is very simple.

1. Download and install AutoHotkey v2 from the official website.
2. Right-click on the desktop and select **New > AutoHotkey Script** .

3. Name the file **HyperKey.ahk** , for example, and open it with Notepad.
4. Delete any default content, paste the script (provided below), and save.
5. Run the script with administrator privileges.

```
#Requires AutoHotkey v2.0 *CapsLock:: { Send("{Ctrl down}{Shift down}{Alt down}{1 down}") }
```

When the script runs, a green "H" icon will appear in the system tray. Hold down the Caps Lock key, and it will send all four modifier keys simultaneously. Release the key, and the modifier keys will be released, just like a regular modifier key.

Note : This basic script completely replaces the Caps Lock key, but if you occasionally need to toggle Caps Lock on/off, use the script below. This script distinguishes between press and hold – a quick press and release toggles Caps Lock on/off, holding activates Hyper Key.

```
#Requires AutoHotkey v2.0 *CapsLock:: { startTime := A_TickCount Send("{Ctrl down}") }
```

The 200-millisecond threshold works well for most people. If you find it too sensitive, you can increase that number.

To run the script at startup, press **Win + R** , type **shell:startup** , and press **Enter** . Copy the HyperKey.ahk file to this folder. Windows will automatically launch it every time you log in.

Hyper Key is just the beginning.

What should you do next?

Setting up Hyper Key only takes a few minutes, but the real value comes from what you build upon it. Once you're familiar with it, consider adding shortcuts to specific folders, launching applications with predefined window positions, or triggering multi-step automation processes via AutoHotkey.

You can also explore reassigning functions to other less-used keys, such as Scroll Lock, Insert, or even the right Alt key. The same principle applies: if a key isn't being used effectively, leverage it.

You finished reading the article "**How to remap the Caps Lock function to Hyper Key.**" edited by the [TipsMake](#) team. We hope this article has provided you with many useful tech tips and tricks. You can search for similar articles on tips and guides. Thank you for reading and for following us regularly.