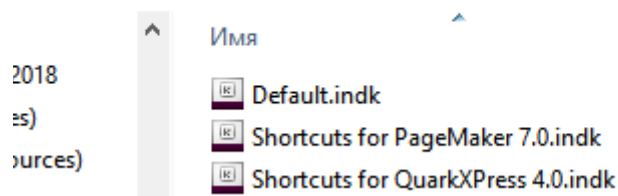


# Search for free keyboard shortcuts (hot keys)

Google helps you to find list of all the InDesign applied shortcuts, but this program saves a list of *free* hotkeys. This is useful in order to easily assign unoccupied combinations to your scripts.

Lists of keyboard shortcuts are stored in text files with the extension 'indk' in system part of InDesign folders: **InDesign CC20nn> Presets > InDesign Shortcut Sets > en\_GB**

Design CC 2018 > Presets > InDesign Shortcut Sets > en\_GB



By default user folder for shortcuts **...\AppData\Roaming\Adobe\InDesign\Version 13.0\en\_GB\InDesign Shortcut Sets** is empty but user can add own set of shortcuts: select **Edit > Keyboard shortcuts** type **New Set** button, enter the name of new set. Let's it name is **MySet**. Top is screen-



shot of user folder with this added set. Actually this set holds information about all menu commands, specifying whether this command has a hot-key or not. Type button **Show Set...** to output whole list on the screen.

**And this program is for to extract information from this indk-file — which keyboard shortcuts are free.**

This script suggests selecting such a **indk**-file from the custom part of the

InDesign folders. After that, the characters "0123456789ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ" are searched in it one by one, preceded by the modifiers Shift+, Ctrl+, Alt+, Shift+Ctrl+, Shift+Alt+, Ctrl+Alt+, Shift+Ctrl+Alt+. There are seven options in total.

The numbers are from the top row of keyboard. The numeric keypad is traditionally used for style hotkeys. In addition, Alt codes for loading characters are skipped:

Alt+2 : ™ Alt+6 : § Alt+7 : ¶ Alt+8 : •

All undiscovered variants (free keyboard combinations in this list) are collected in a text file **FreeShortCuts.txt**, placed in the folder of this script.

The number of such combinations is indicated, and on the basis of which inf file this list is prepared.

### The mystery of matching hotkeys

Once I noticed that there are matches for different operations in the system hotkeys. But then there was no time to figure out, no knowledge of how to find such coincidences.

Now it is, and the program collects all the found repeats in a file **SameShortCuts.txt**.

And then another misunderstanding appeared — for example, in the text file received by pressing the **Show Set...** button, there is only one mention of using combinations Ctrl+0 and Ctrl+1.

But the script processing the original **indk**-file detects that these combinations occur twice there, and therefore puts them in the list of duplicate codes. This is with another combinations using the **Ctrl** key. On the macintosh, it's the **Cmd** key, and it's the same result there.

Why this is so, I don't know yet. But this fact does not prevent using the first file **FreeShortCuts.txt** to assign free hotkeys to your scripts.

Feel free to ask me about this script and others my programs of course.

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