

Why is Alt+F4 the hotkey for closing a window? Why not Alt+F5 or Alt+F3?

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In a [One Dev Question](#) video, I discussed why **Alt + F4** is the hotkey for closing a window. That explains why it's a function key rather than an alphabet key, but why **F4** specifically? Why not **F5** or **F3**?

It's **F4** because that was the next key available.

The hotkeys according to [CUA](#) were as follows:

- **Alt + F10**: Maximize
- **Alt + F9**: Minimize
- **Alt + F8**: Resize
- **Alt + F7**: Move
- **Alt + F6**: Switch windows within an app
- **Alt + F5**: Restore
- **Alt + F4**: Close

Most of these hotkeys died out over time due to disuse. The ones that remain active today are **Alt + F6** and **Alt + F4**.

Wait, what about **F11** and **F12**? Why were they skipped over?

[The original IBM PC keyboard](#) didn't have **F11** or **F12** function keys. The function keys went up to **F10**.

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