

Commonly-supported Windows shortcuts for pasting without formatting

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Sometimes you just want to paste as plain text.

Microsoft Edge, Google Chrome, and Mozilla Firefox all support **Ctrl + Shift + V** as a keyboard shortcut for “paste as plain text.” This means that **Ctrl + Shift + V** also works in browser-based apps, like Teams.

Programs in the Microsoft Office suite naturally do things a little differently, and the way to paste as plain text is to hit **Ctrl + Alt + V** and then select “Unformatted Text”. Alternatively, you can do **Alt, H, V, T**. Note that the keys are pressed and released in sequence, not held simultaneously.

One trick I use if I need to strip formatting from the clipboard is to use the key sequence **Win + R, Ctrl + V, Ctrl + A, Ctrl + C, Esc**. This opens the Run dialog, pastes the clipboard into the edit box, then copies the text back out.

If I’m on a Web page, I use **Ctrl + F** instead of **Win + R**, using the Web browser’s “Find text on page” dialog as the temporary edit control.

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