



A keyboard shortcut doesn't work in virtual machine

- Parallels Desktop for Mac Standard Edition
- Parallels Desktop for Mac Pro Edition
- Parallels Desktop for Mac Business Edition
- Parallels Desktop for Mac App Store Edition

Symptoms

- I cannot use one of the following key combinations in my virtual machine (VM):

```
CTRL + left/right arrow  
CTRL + up/down arrow  
CTRL+ SHIFT + left/right arrow  
CTRL + SHIFT + arrow
```

Cause

Parallels Desktop or macOS misconfiguration.

Resolution

To forward all keyboard shortcuts to the virtual machine (VM):

1. Open **Parallels Desktop preferences > Shortcuts > macOS System Shortcuts**:

Now whenever your virtual machine is in focus (mouse/keyboard control is grabbed by the VM) all Mac system shortcuts will be passed into the virtual machine, and they will work as your virtual machine's shortcuts.

Alternative solution

Ctrl+Arrow(s) keyboard combinations are assigned to Mission Control by default in macOS. You can disable these shortcuts in **System Preferences > Keyboard > Shortcuts > Mission Control**:

This will disable the use of shortcuts for Mission Control. However, since Mission Control supports gestures, most people with gesture-capable machines won't even need the shortcuts. Also, you could assign other shortcuts to Mission Control if you like.

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