NATIONAL INSTRUMENTS™

LabVIEW Documentation and Help Resources

Context Help

When you move the cursor over objects on the front panel or block diagram, the **Context Help** window displays basic information about each object. Select **Help»Show Context Help** to display the **Context Help** window.

LabVIEW Help

Includes reference information for each palette, menu, tool, dialog box, and built-in VI or function. The *LabVIEW Help* also includes step-by-step instructions for using LabVIEW features. Select **Help»VI, Function, & How-To Help** to access the *LabVIEW Help*.

LabVIEW Bookshelf

Contains links to all the LabVIEW documentation in electronic format. Use the *LabVIEW Bookshelf* to search PDF versions of all the LabVIEW manuals and Application Notes. Select **Help»Search the LabVIEW Bookshelf** to access the *LabVIEW Bookshelf*.

LabVIEW Examples

LabVIEW includes hundreds of example VIs you can use and incorporate into your own VIs. You can modify an example to fit your application, or you can copy and paste from one or more examples into your own VI. Browse or search the example VIs by selecting **Help»Find Examples**.

LabVIEW Web Resources

Includes a list of links to online National Instruments resources. Select **Help»Web Resources** to access the LabVIEW resources at `ni.com`. Resources available to you include the following:

Products and Services
· Upgrades
· Training courses
· Seminars and user groups

Solutions
· Systems integrators
· Customer solutions

Support
· LabVIEW support
· Manuals

NI Developer Zone
· Discussion forums
· Example code

Keyboard Shortcuts

Refer to the *LabVIEW Help* to access this list of keyboard shortcuts.

Object/Movement

Shift-click	Selects multiple objects; adds object to current selection.
↑↓→← (arrow keys)	Moves selected objects one pixel at a time.
Shift-↑↓→←	Moves selected objects several pixels at a time.
Shift-click (drag)	Moves selected objects in one axis.
Ctrl-click (drag)	Duplicates selected object.
Ctrl-Shift-click (drag)	Duplicates selected object and moves it in one axis.
Shift-resize	Resizes selected object while maintaining aspect ratio.
Ctrl-resize	Resizes selected object while maintaining center point.
Ctrl-drag a rectangle	Inserts more working space on the front panel or block diagram.
Ctrl-A	Performs last alignment operation on objects.
Ctrl-D	Performs last distribution operation on objects.
Double-click open space	Places free label on the front panel or block diagram if automatic tool selection is enabled.
Ctrl-mouse wheel	Scrolls through subdiagrams of a Case, Event, and Stacked Sequence structure.

Navigating the LabVIEW Environment

Ctrl-E	Displays block diagram or front panel.
Ctrl-#	Enables or disables alignment grid. On French keyboards, press the <Ctrl-"> keys.
Ctrl-/	Maximizes and restores window.
Ctrl-T	Tiles front panel and block diagram windows.
Ctrl-F	Finds objects or text.
Ctrl-G	Searches VIs for next instance of object or text.
Ctrl-Shift-G	Searches VIs for previous instance of object or text.
Ctrl-Shift-F	Displays **Search Results** window.
Ctrl-Tab	Cycles through LabVIEW windows.
Ctrl-Shift-Tab	Cycles backward through LabVIEW windows.
Ctrl-I	Displays **VI Properties** dialog box.
Ctrl-L	Displays **Error list** window.
Ctrl-Y	Displays **History** window.
Ctrl-D	Redraws **Hierarchy** window.
Ctrl-A	Shows all VIs in **Hierarchy** window.
Enter *	Finds next node that matches the search string.
Shift-Enter *	Finds previous node that matches the search string.

* After initiating a search by typing in **Hierarchy** window

Debugging

Ctrl-↓	Steps into node.
Ctrl-→	Steps over node.
Ctrl-↑	Steps out of node.

File Operations

Ctrl-N	Creates new VI.
Ctrl-O	Opens existing VI.
Ctrl-W	Closes VI.
Ctrl-S	Saves VI.
Ctrl-P	Prints the window.
Ctrl-Q	Quits LabVIEW.

Basic Editing

Ctrl-Z	Undoes last action.
Ctrl-Shift-Z	Redoes last action.
Ctrl-X	Cuts an object.
Ctrl-C	Copies an object.
Ctrl-V	Pastes an object.

Help

Ctrl-H	Displays **Context Help** window.
Ctrl-Shift-L	Locks **Context Help** window.
Ctrl-? or F1	Displays *LabVIEW Help*.

Note The <Ctrl> key in these shortcuts corresponds to the (Mac OS) <Option> or <Command> key, (Sun) <Meta> key, or (Linux) <Alt> key.

Tools and Palettes

Ctrl	Switches to next most useful tool.
Shift	Switches to Positioning tool.
Ctrl-Shift over open space	Switches to Scrolling tool.
Spacebar *	Toggles between two most common tools.
Shift-Tab *	Enables automatic tool selection.
Tab *	Cycles through tools if you disabled automatic tool selection by clicking the **Automatic Tool Selection** button. Otherwise, enables automatic tool selection.
↑↓→←	Navigates temporary **Controls** and **Functions** palettes.
Enter	Navigates into temporary palette.
Esc	Navigates out of temporary palette.

* If automatic tool selection is disabled

SubVIs

Double-click subVI	Displays subVI front panel.
Ctrl-double-click subVI	Displays subVI block diagram.
Drag VI icon to block diagram	Places that VI as a subVI on the block diagram.
Shift-drag VI icon to block diagram	Places that VI as a subVI on the block diagram with constants wired for controls that have non-default values.
Ctrl-right-click block diagram and select VI	Opens front panel of that VI from the **Functions** palette.

Execution

Ctrl-R	Runs VI.
Ctrl-. *	Aborts VI.
Ctrl-M	Changes to run or edit mode.
Ctrl-Run button	Recompiles current VI.
Ctrl-Shift-Run button	Recompiles all VIs in memory.
Ctrl-↓ *	Moves key focus inside an array or cluster.
Ctrl-↑ *	Moves key focus outside an array or cluster.
Tab *	Navigates the controls or indicators according to tabbing order.
Shift-Tab *	Navigates backward through the controls or indicators.

* While VI is running

Wiring

Ctrl-B	Removes all broken wires.
Esc, right-click, or click terminal	Cancels a wire you started.
Single-click wire	Selects one segment.
Double-click wire	Selects a branch.
Triple-click wire	Selects entire wire.
A	Disables automatic wire routing temporarily.
Double-click (while wiring)	Tacks down wire without connecting it.
spacebar	Toggles automatic wiring while moving objects.
Shift-click	Undoes last point where you set a wire.
Ctrl-click input on function with two inputs	Switches the two input wires.
spacebar	Switches the direction of a wire between horizontal and vertical.

Text

Double-click	Selects single word in string.
Triple-click	Selects entire string.
Ctrl-→	Moves forward in string by one word.
Ctrl-←	Moves backward in string by one word.
Home	Moves to beginning of current line in string.
End	Moves to end of current line in string.
Ctrl-Home	Moves to beginning of entire string.
Ctrl-End	Moves to end of entire string.
Shift-Enter	Adds new items when entering items in enumerated type controls and constants, ring controls and constants, or Case structures.
Esc	Cancels current edit in a string.
Ctrl-Enter	Ends text entry.
Ctrl-=	Increases current font size.
Ctrl--	Decreases current font size.
Ctrl-0	Displays **Font** dialog box.
Ctrl-1 *	Displays Application font.
Ctrl-2 *	Displays System font.
Ctrl-3 *	Displays Dialog font.
Ctrl-4 *	Displays current font.

* In **Font** dialog box

Editing, Execution, and Debugging Tools

Show Context Help Window—Displays the **Context Help** window.

Run—Runs the VI.

Broken Run—Indicates that the VI contains errors. Click the button to list errors.

Run Continuously—Runs the VI until you abort or pause it.

Abort Execution—Stops the VI immediately.

Pause—Pauses or resumes a running VI.

Align Objects—Aligns objects along axes.

Distribute Objects—Spaces objects evenly.
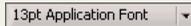
`13pt Application Font` **Text Settings**—Changes the attributes of text in the VI.

Resize Objects—Resizes multiple front panel objects to the same size.

Reorder—Reorders objects if they overlap, including moving forward and moving backward.

Highlight Execution—Shows the flow of data through the block diagram.

Step Into—Steps into a node, which blinks when ready to execute.

Step Over—Executes a node and pauses at the next node.

Step Out—Steps out of a node and continues to the next node.

Breakpoint Tool—Sets breakpoints on nodes to pause execution.

Probe Tool—Creates probes on wires to display intermediate values in a running VI.

`Simulated Frequency.vi` / `Vibration Analysis.vi` **Call Chain**—Lists all the callers from the top-level VI to the opened subVI.

Terminal Data Types

Signed Integers (0)	8-bit	I8
	16-bit	I16
	32-bit	I32
Unsigned Integers (0)	8-bit	U8
	16-bit	U16
	32-bit	U32
Floating-Point (0)	Single	SGL
	Double	DBL
	Extended	EXT
Complex Floating-Point (0 + 0i)	Single	CSG
	Double	CDB
	Extended	CXT

Boolean (FALSE) — TF

String (empty string) — abc

Path (<Not A Path>)

Reference number

Enumerated type

Cluster Numeric

Mixed data

Array 1D

2D

Waveform

Digital waveform

Digital

I/O name — I/O

Time stamp

Dynamic

Picture

Variant

Note Default values appear in ( ).