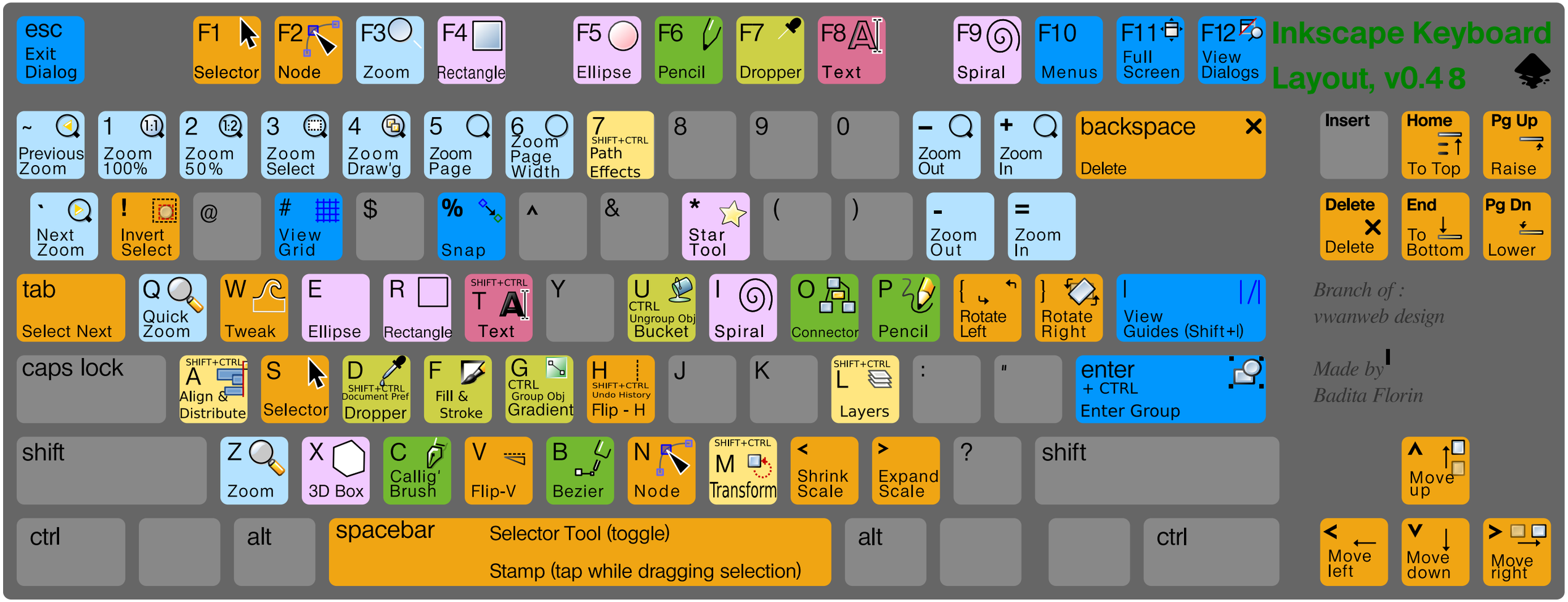

Pen (Bezier) tool

Create nodes

click create a sharp nodeb

Shift+click add to selected path

If a path is selected,**Shift+clicking** anywhere starts a new subpath instead of a new independent path.

mouse drag create a Bezier node with two handles

Shift+mouse drag move only one handle

This moves only one handle (instead of both) while creating a node, making it cusp.

Ctrl+mouse drag snap the handle to angle steps

The default angle step is 15 degrees.

Move last node

These commands move the last created node (at the start of the red segment) while creating a path.

arrows move last node by the nudge distance

Shift+arrows move last node by 10x nudge distance

The default nudge distance is 2 px (SVG pixel units, not screen pixels).

Alt+arrows move last node by 1 pixel

Shift+Alt+arrows move last node by 10 pixels

The actual distance for pixel movements depends on zoom level. Zoom in for finer movement.

Create/modify segments

Ctrl+ snap last segment to angle steps

This snaps the new node's angle, relative to the previous node, to angle steps (default 15 degrees).

Shift+L make last segment line

Shift+U make last segment curve

These commands change the last (red) segment of the path to straight line or curve.

Create dots

Ctrl+click create a dot (straight line modes only)

This creates a small circle. Its size (relative to the current stroke width) can be set in Preferences.

Shift+Ctrl+click create a double-sized dot

Ctrl+Alt+click create a random-sized dot

Finish

Enter finish current line

right click finish current line

clickclick finish current line

Enter, right click, or double left click finish the current line, discarding the last unfinished (red) segment.

Cancel

Esc, Ctrl+z cancel current line

Backspace, Del erase last segment of current line

Object

Clipboard

Ctrl+Alt+V paste in place

This places the clipboard objects into the original location from which they were copied.

Shift+Ctrl+V paste style

This applies the style of the (first of the) copied object(s) to the current selection. If a gradient handle (in Gradient tool) or a text span (in Text tool) are selected, they get the style instead of the entire object.

Ctrl+7 paste path effect

This applies the path effect of the copied path to the paths/shapes in current selection.

Duplicate

Ctrl+D duplicate selection

New object(s) are placed exactly over the original(s) and selected.

Clone

Alt+D clone object

A clone can be moved/scaled/rotated/skewed independently, but it updates the path, fill, and stroke from its original. The clone is placed exactly over the original object and is selected.

You can only clone one object at a time; if you want to clone several objects together, group them and clone the group.

Shift+Alt+D unlink clone

Unlinking a clone cuts the link to the original, turning the clone into a plain copy.

Shift+D select original

To find out which object this is a clone of, select the clone and give this command. The original will be selected.

Object

Bitmaps

Alt+B create a bitmap copy

This exports the selected object(s) (all other objects hidden) as PNG in the document's directory and imports it back.

The imported bitmap is placed over the original selection and is selected.

Shift+Alt+B trace bitmap

This opens the Trace Bitmap dialog allowing you to convert a bitmap object to path(s).

Patterns

Alt+I object(s) to pattern

This converts the selection to a rectangle with tiled pattern fill.

Shift+Alt+I pattern to object(s)Each selected object with pattern fill is broken into the same object without fill and a single pattern object.

Group

Ctrl+G group selected objects

Use **Ctrl+click** to select objects within group.

Ctrl+U ungroup selected group(s)

This removes only one level of grouping; press **Ctrl+U** repeatedly to ungroup nested groups.

Z-order

Home raise selection to top

End lower selection to bottom

PgUp raise selection one step

PgDn lower selection one step

Change node type

Shift+C make cusp

Shift+S make smooth

Shift+Y make symmetric

Shift+A make auto

Shift+B break selected node(s)

Del delete selected node(s)

Ctrl+Backspace, Ctrl+Del delete without preserving shape

Ctrl+Alt+click create/delete node)

.Shift+D duplicate selected node

Dropper tool

click pick fill color

Shift+click pick stroke color

mouse drag average fill color

Shift+mouse drag average stroke color

Click applies the color under cursor to the current selection. Dragging a radius calculates the average color of a circular area.

If a gradient handle (in Gradient tool) is selected, it gets the color instead of the entire object.

Alt+click pick inverse color

If **Alt** is pressed, picking color (with or without **Shift**, by click or by drag) picks the inverse of the color.

Ctrl+C copy color

This copies the color under cursor to the clipboard, as text in RRGGBBAA format (8 hex digits).

Layers

Shift+Ctrl+N create new layer

Shift+PgUp move to layer above

Shift+PgDn move to layer below

These commands move the selected objects from one layer to another.

Shift+Ctrl+PgUp raise layer

Shift+Ctrl+PgDn lower layer

Shift+Ctrl+Home raise layer to top

Shift+Ctrl+End lower layer to bottom

These commands move the current layer among its siblings (normally other layers).

Window

Ctrl+R toggle rulers

Ctrl+B toggle scrollbars

F11 toggle fullscreen

F10 main menu

Menus can also be activated by **Alt** with the letter underscored in the menu name.

Shift+F10, right click drop-down (context) menu

Ctrl+F4, **Ctrl+W** close document window

This shuts down Inkscape if it was the only document window open.

Ctrl+Tab next document window

Shift+Ctrl+Tab previous document window

These cycle through the active document windows forward and backward.

Path

Convert to path

Shift+Ctrl+C convert selected object(s) to path

Ctrl+Alt+C convert stroke to path

Boolean operations

Ctrl++ union

Union combines any number of objects into a single path, removing overlaps.

Ctrl+- difference

Difference works on 2 objects, extracting the top from the bottom.

Ctrl+* intersection

Intersection creates a path representing the common (overlapping) area of all selected objects.

Ctrl+^ exclusive OR (XOR)

XOR is similar to Union, except that it works on 2 objects and removes areas where the objects overlap.

Ctrl+/ division (cut)

Division cuts the bottom object into pieces by the top object, preserving the fill and stroke of the bottom.

Ctrl+Alt+/ cut path

Cut Path cuts the bottom object's stroke only where it is intersected by the top path, removing any fill from the result.

Path

Offsets

Ctrl+(inset path (towards center)

Ctrl+) outset path (away from center)

The default offset distance is 2 px (SVG pixel units, not screen pixels).

Alt+(inset path by 1 pixel

Alt+) outset path by 1 pixel

Shift+Alt+(inset path by 10 pixels

Shift+Alt+) outset path by 10 pixels

Ctrl+J create dynamic offset

Ctrl+Alt+J create linked offset

These commands produce an offset object, editable by the node tool, standalone or linked to the original.

Shift+D select source

Selecting a linked offset and giving this command will select the source path of the linked offset.

Combine

Ctrl+K combine paths

This is different from grouping in that combined paths create one object.

This is different from Union in that overlapping areas are not affected.

Whether overlapping areas are filled is controlled by the Fill: winding/alternating switch on the Fill & Stroke dialog.

Shift+Ctrl+K break paths apart

Simplify

Ctrl+L simplify