

Adjusting Sky Time

You may want to use Nightshade to explore dates in the future or the past. The following keys are used to adjust your sky time:

6	Pause/continue movement of time.
7	Stop time.
8	Set sky time to current time.
J	Accelerate time rate in a negative (backward) direction. Can be pressed multiple times for faster rates. If the time rate is positive, this will act to decrease your time rate.
K	Move forward in real time.
L	Accelerate time rate in a positive (forward) direction. Can be pressed multiple times for faster rates. If time is moving backward, will reduce the backward rate.
-	Move backward in time one Earth calendar day (or local sidereal day if you configured this in menu item 2.3, described below).
=	Move forward in time one Earth calendar day (or local sidereal day).
[Move backward in time seven Earth calendar days (or local sidereal days).
]	Move forward in time seven Earth calendar days (or local sidereal days).

Nightshade Interface Guide

Feature	Tool bar icon	Key	Description
Constellation lines		C	Draws the constellation lines
Constellation names		V	Draws the constellation names
Constellation artwork		R	Superimposes artistic representations of the constellations over the stars
Azimuthal grid		Z	Draws grid lines for the Alt/Az coordinate system
Equatorial grid		E	Draws grid lines for the RA/Dec coordinate system
Toggle ground		G	Toggles drawing of the ground. Turn this off to see objects below the horizon.
Toggle cardinal points		Q	Toggles marking of the North, South, East, and West points on the horizon
Toggle atmosphere		A	Toggles atmospheric effects.
Planet (solar system object) names		P	Draws the names of the planets, moons, dwarf planets, etc.
Nebula (deep space object) names		N	Marks the positions of nebulae and galaxies when the FOV is too wide to see them
Coordinate system		ENTER	Toggles between Alt/Az and RA/Dec coordinate systems
Track		SPACE	Centers the view on the selected object
Search		CTRL + F	Toggle the display of the object search window
Configuration window		1 (DIGIT ONE)	Toggle the display of the configuration window
Help		H	Toggle the display of the help window
Quit		CTRL + Q	Close Nightshade

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Feature	Tool bar icon	Key	Description
Rewind		J	Accelerate time rate in a negative (backward) direction. Can be pressed multiple times for faster rates. If the time rate is positive, this will act to decrease your time rate.
Play		K	Move forward in real time
Fast-forward		L	Accelerate time rate in a positive (forward) direction. Can be pressed multiple times for faster rates. If time is moving backward, pressing this key will reduce the backward rate.
Current time		8	Set time to current time

Key Commands by Function **Movement and selection**

ARROW KEYS	Change viewing RA/Dec
PAGE UP	Zoom in on selected object (manual zoom)
PAGE DOWN	Zoom out from selected object (manual zoom)
CTRL + UP ARROW	Zoom in on selected object (manual zoom)
CTRL + DOWN ARROW	Zoom out from selected object (manual zoom)
LEFT CLICK	Select object
RIGHT CLICK	Unselect object
\	Zoom out from selected object (auto zoom)
/	Zoom in on selected object (auto zoom)
SPACE	Center on selected object

Display options

ENTER	Equatorial/altazimuthal mount
F11	Toggle full screen, if possible (not possible on Windows)
C	Constellation lines
V	Constellation labels
B	Constellation boundaries
R	Constellation artwork
E	Equatorial grid
Z	Meridian
N	Nebula labels

Dialogs and Other Controls

P	Planet labels
D	Star labels
S	Stars
G	Ground
A	Atmosphere
F	Fog
Q	Cardinal points
O	Toggle moon scaling
4 OR , (COMMA)	Ecliptic line
5 OR . (PERIOD)	Equator line
X	Toggle time and selected object information display.

During Script Playback

Shift Functions -- After pressing and releasing the ` (backtick) key:

P	Toggle planet and moon orbit lines
4 or , (COMMA)	Toggle planet trails
Z	Azimuthal grid
8	Load default configuration
K	Replay last script
5 or . (PERIOD)	Toggle celestial tropic lines
A	Toggle the cloud rendering when viewing planets (currently just the Earth)

Miscellaneous

CTRL + D	Play demo script
9	Cycle through meteor shower rates
CTRL + Q	Quit

H	Help
I	About
M	Text menu
1	Configuration
CTRL + S	Take a screenshot
CTRL + R	Toggle script recording
CTRL + F	Toggle object finder
CTRL + G	Go to selected planet
CTRL + V	Toggle record video frames to disk

6	Pause script
7	End script
K	Resume script
L	Fast-forward script