Adobe XD UI/UX Design Cheatsheet

A comprehensive cheat sheet for UI/UX designers using Adobe XD, covering essential tools, shortcuts, and best practices for efficient design workflows.

Workspace Essentials

Basic Tools & Panels

Select Tool (V)	Selects and moves objects.
Rectangle Tool (R)	Draws rectangles and squares.
Ellipse Tool (E)	Draws ellipses and circles.
Line Tool (L)	Draws straight lines.
Pen Tool (P)	Draws custom shapes and paths.
Text Tool (T)	Adds and edits text.
Artboard Tool (A)	Creates new artboards with preset sizes.
Zoom Tool (Z)	Zooms in and out of the canvas.

Common Panels

Layers Panel	Manages the order and visibility of objects.
Assets Panel	Stores colors, character styles, and components for reuse.
Plugins Panel	Accesses and manages installed plugins.
Properties Inspector	Modifies object properties like size, fill, and effects.

Shortcuts for Navigation

Zoom In	Ctrl + +
Zoom Out	Ctrl + -
Hand Tool (Panning)	Spacebar + Drag
Actual Size (100%)	Ctrl + 1
Zoom to Fit	Ctrl + 0

Design & Styling

Object Manipulation

Duplicate	Ctrl + D (Creates a duplicate in place) or Alt + Drag (Creates a duplicate while dragging)
Group Objects	Ctrl + G (Groups selected objects)
Ungroup Objects	Ctrl + Shift + G (Ungroups selected objects)
Lock Object	Ctrl + L (Prevents accidental selection/modification)
Unlock Object	Ctrl + Shift + L (Unlocks a locked object)
Boolean Operations	Combine, Subtract, Intersect, Exclude Overlap (Available via right-click or Object menu)

Styling Essentials

Fill	Sets the color or gradient of an object.
Border	Adds a stroke around an object.
Shadow	Adds a drop shadow effect.
Blur	Applies a background or object blur.
Opacity	Adjusts the transparency of an object.
Corner Radius	Rounds the corners of rectangles.

Text Formatting

Font Family	Selects the typeface.
Font Size	Adjusts the size of the text.
Font Weight	Sets the boldness of the text.
Line Height	Controls the spacing between lines of text.
Letter Spacing	Adjusts the spacing between characters.
Text Alignment	Aligns text left, center, or right.

Prototyping

Basic Interactions

Transition	Animates the change between artboards (e.g., Slide, Fade, Push).
Auto-Animate	Creates smooth animations between artboards with similar layers.
Overlay	Displays an artboard on top of another without transitioning away.
Scroll To	Navigates to a specific point on the same artboard.
Audio Playback	Plays an audio file on an interaction.
Voice Trigger	Trigger interactions with voice commands.

Triggers & Actions

Tap	Triggers an interaction on tap or click.
Drag	Triggers an interaction by dragging an object.
Time	Automatically triggers an interaction after a specified duration.
Keys & Gamepad	Triggers an interaction using keyboard keys or gamepad buttons.
Hover	Triggers an interaction when the mouse hovers over an object.

Preview & Share

Desktop Preview	Previews the prototype in a separate window.
Mobile Preview	Previews the prototype on a mobile device using the Adobe XD mobile app.
Share for Review	Generates a shareable link for feedback.
Share for Development	Creates a shareable link with design specs for developers.
Record Video	Records a video of the prototype interaction.

Advanced Techniques

Components & States

Create Component	Right-click on an object and select 'Make Component' (Ctrl + K).
Edit Master Component	Changes to the master component are reflected in all instances.
Component States	Define different visual states for a component (e.g., Default, Hover, Pressed).
Swap Instances	Quickly replace one component instance with another.

Repeat Grid

Create Repeat Grid	Select an object and click the 'Repeat Grid' button.
Adjust Spacing	Drag the handles between items to adjust horizontal and vertical spacing.
Populate with Data	Drag text files or images onto the grid to populate it with content.

Plugins

Install Plugins	Browse and install plugins from the Plugins panel.
Popular Plugins	UI Faces, Unsplash, Confetti, Rename It, VizzyCharts, etc.
Manage Plugins	Update or uninstall plugins from the Plugins panel.