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## Keychron V3-C1

# Keychron V3 Wired Custom Mechanical Keyboard User Manual

Model: V3-C1 | Brand: Keychron

## INTRODUCTION

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The Keychron V3 is a wired custom mechanical keyboard featuring a TKL (80%) layout. It supports QMK/VIA for extensive customization and includes hot-swappable Keychron K Pro Brown switches. Designed for compatibility with Mac, Windows, and Linux operating systems, the V3 offers a versatile and comfortable typing experience.

## PRODUCT FEATURES

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- **87-Key TKL Layout:** Classic Tenkeyless design with QMK/VIA support for extensive customization.
- **Fully Customizable:** Easily assembled components including keycaps, switches, gaskets, plates, and case foam.
- **Hot-Swappable Switches:** Supports almost all 3-pin and 5-pin MX mechanical switches (Cherry, Gateron, Kailh, Panda, etc.) without soldering.
- **Keychron K Pro Brown Switches:** Pre-lubed tactile switches with a 50 million keystroke lifespan.
- **Mac & Windows Compatibility:** Includes a system toggle and additional keycaps for both operating systems.
- **Double-Shot PBT Keycaps:** Unique OSA profile keycaps for comfortable feel and oil resistance.
- **South-Facing RGB Backlight:** Designed to illuminate the keyboard backlight effectively and prevent interference with Cherry-profile keycaps.
- **PCB-Mounted Screw-In Stabilizers:** For large keys like space bar, shift, and enter, ensuring less wobbliness and smooth performance.

## SETUP GUIDE

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## 1. Connecting the Keyboard

Connect the provided USB Type-C to Type-C cable to the keyboard's USB-C port and to your computer. If your computer only has Type-A ports, use the included Type-A to Type-C adapter.

# BUILD YOUR OWN FULLY CUSTOMIZABLE KEYBOARD

You can easily customize keys and macros through the VIA



✓ Remap Each Key

✓ Macro Commands

Image: The Keychron V3 keyboard connected to a device using its USB-C cable.

## 2. System Toggle

Locate the system toggle switch on the back or side of the keyboard. Switch it to the appropriate operating system mode (Mac or Windows) for optimal compatibility. The keyboard comes with additional keycaps for both Windows and macOS layouts.

# HOT-SWAPPABLE SWITCH

The PCB supports both 3 pin and 5 pin MX mechanical switches



Image: The Keychron V3 keyboard, highlighting the system toggle switch for Mac/Windows compatibility.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

### Basic Typing

The Keychron V3 functions as a standard TKL keyboard. Simply connect it to your computer, and it will be ready for use. Ensure the system toggle is set correctly for your operating system.

### Function Keys

The top row of keys (F1-F12) serves as function keys. Depending on your operating system and customization, these keys may have secondary functions accessible via the 'Fn' key.

### Backlight Control

The keyboard features south-facing RGB backlighting. Use the designated keys (often Fn + a specific key) to cycle through various lighting effects, adjust brightness, and change colors. Refer to the QMK/VIA customization section for advanced lighting controls.

# SOUTH-FACING RGB



Image: The Keychron V3 keyboard showcasing its customizable RGB backlighting.

## CUSTOMIZATION WITH QMK/VIA

The Keychron V3 is fully programmable with QMK and VIA firmware, offering extensive customization options for key layouts, shortcuts, and backlight effects.

### Using VIA Software

VIA is a powerful software that allows you to remap keys, create macros, and customize lighting without needing to flash new firmware. Download the VIA software from the official Keychron website.

- **Remap Each Key:** Assign any function to any key.
- **Macro Commands:** Create complex sequences of key presses to automate tasks.
- **Layer Management:** Configure multiple keymap layers for different uses (e.g., gaming, productivity).

## Keychron V3

# Custom Mechanical Keyboard

QMK/VIA | Hot-swappable | Wired



Image: The VIA software interface, demonstrating key remapping and macro creation for the Keychron V3.

## HOT-SWAPPABLE SWITCHES

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The Keychron V3 features a hot-swappable PCB, allowing you to change mechanical switches without soldering. This enables easy customization of your typing feel.

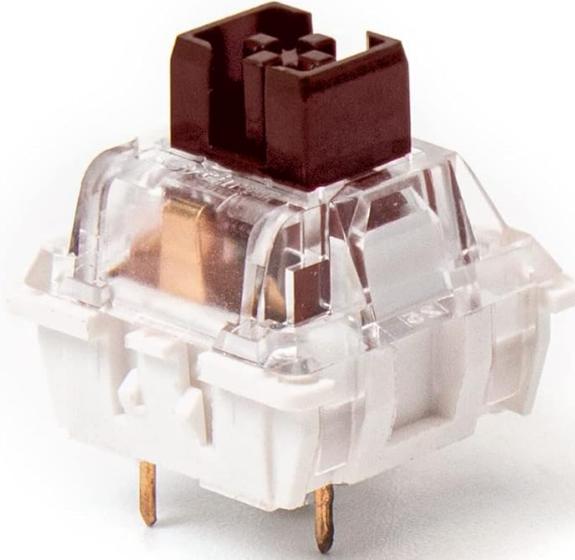
### Changing Switches

1. **Remove Keycap:** Use the included keycap puller to gently remove the desired keycap.
2. **Remove Switch:** Use the included switch puller to carefully extract the switch from the PCB. Grip the switch firmly and pull straight up.
3. **Insert New Switch:** Align the pins of the new switch with the holes on the PCB. Press down gently until the switch clicks into place. Ensure pins are not bent.
4. **Replace Keycap:** Place the keycap back onto the new switch stem.

The V3 is compatible with most 3-pin and 5-pin MX mechanical switches.



Image: A close-up view of the Keychron V3's hot-swappable PCB, showing switches being inserted or removed.



## KEYCHRON K PRO BROWN SWITCH (TACTILE)

50 ±10 gf

Operating Force

2 ±0.4 mm

Pre-travel

4 ±0.4 mm

Travel Distance

Image: A detailed illustration of a Keychron K Pro Brown tactile switch, including its operating force, pre-travel, and total travel

## MAINTENANCE

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### Cleaning the Keyboard

- **Keycaps:** Remove keycaps using the keycap puller. Clean them with a mild soap solution and a soft cloth. Ensure they are completely dry before reattaching.
- **Switches:** Use compressed air to remove dust and debris from around the switches. Avoid spraying liquid directly into the switches.
- **Case:** Wipe the keyboard case with a soft, damp cloth.

### General Care

Avoid exposing the keyboard to excessive moisture, extreme temperatures, or direct sunlight. Do not drop the keyboard or apply excessive force to the keys.

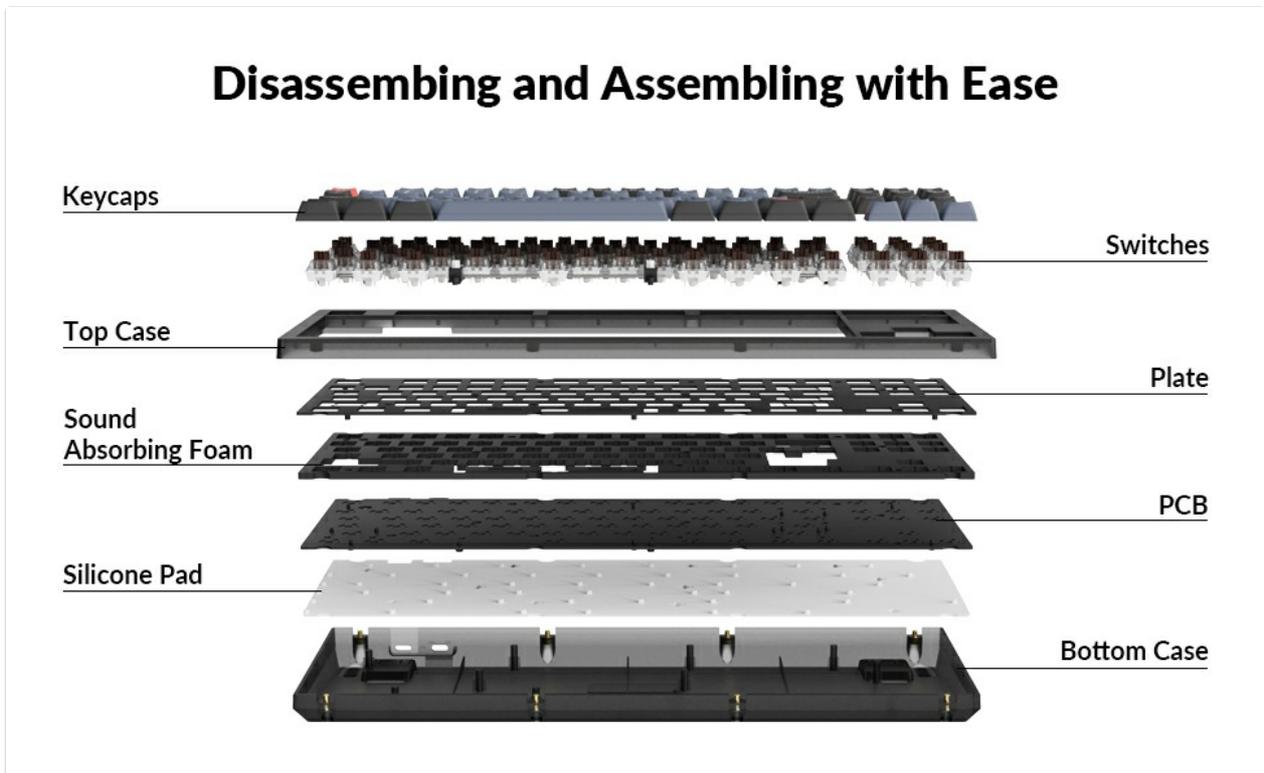


Image: An exploded diagram showing the various components of the Keychron V3 keyboard, illustrating its modular design for maintenance and customization.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

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### Keyboard Not Responding

- Ensure the USB cable is securely connected to both the keyboard and the computer.
- Verify the system toggle switch is set to the correct operating system (Mac/Windows).
- Try connecting the keyboard to a different USB port or another computer to rule out port issues.
- Restart your computer.

### Backlight Issues

- Check if the backlight is turned off or set to minimum brightness. Use the designated backlight control keys.
- If using VIA, ensure no custom lighting profiles are overriding the default settings.

## Key Input Errors

- Ensure switches are properly seated. Remove and re-insert any problematic switches.
- Check for bent switch pins when installing new switches.
- If keys are remapped via VIA, verify the correct key assignments.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Brand	Keychron
Model Number	V3-C1
Layout	TKL (80%), 87 Keys
Connectivity	Wired (USB-C)
Switches	Keychron K Pro Brown (Tactile, Hot-swappable)
Keycaps	Double-shot PBT, OSA Profile
Backlighting	South-facing RGB
Compatibility	Mac, Windows, Linux
Programmability	QMK/VIA
Product Dimensions	14.44"L x 5.53"W x 1.06"H
Enclosure Material	Plastic

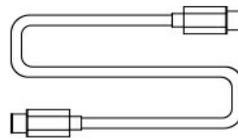
## WHAT'S IN THE BOX

The Keychron V3 package includes the following items:

- 1x Fully Assembled Keyboard
- 1x PCB
- 1x Steel Plate
- 1x Sound Absorbing Foam
- 1x Case Silicone Pad
- 5 sets x Stabilizers
- 1 set x Keycaps (Double-Shot PBT)
- 1 set x Switches (Keychron K Pro Brown)
- 1x Type-C to Type-C Cable
- 1x Type-A to Type-C Adapter
- 1x Switch Puller

- 1x Keycap Puller
- 1x Screwdriver
- 1x Hex Key

## What You Get **Keychron V3**



### Keyboard

- 1x Fully Assembled Keyboard
- Including**
- 1x PCB
- 1x Steel Plate
- 1x Sound Absorbing Foam
- 1x Case Silicone Pad
- 5 sets x Stabilizers
- 1 set x Keycaps (Double-Shot PBT)
- 1 set x Switches

### Cable

- 1x Type-C to Type-C Cable
- 1x Type-A to Type-C Adapter

### Tools

- 1x Switch Puller
- 1x Keycap Puller
- 1x Screwdriver
- 1x Hex Key

Image: A visual representation of all components and accessories included with the Keychron V3 keyboard.

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information and technical support, please refer to the official Keychron website or contact Keychron customer service. Keep your purchase receipt for warranty claims.