# Alt-Tab Shortcuts Broken In Ubuntu Lucid With XModMap

By Roger Keays, 15 December 2011

I use xmodmap to turn caps-lock into an extra modifier for special keys and shortcuts. Since upgrading finally to Ubuntu Lucid 10.04 LTS, I've had a problem with the Caps-Lock modifier key (Mode_switch) getting stuck when I accidentally press the Shift key. When I get it unstuck by pressing the same combination of Caps, Shift and one of my special keys, all my X-Windows shortcuts like Alt-Tab and Function keys stop working.

It's freaking annoying, however I finally found a workaround in Red Hat Bug513815 and Bug508434...

```
$ setxkbmap -layout jp
```

This resets your keyboard to it's original state. In my case the layout is japanese. You will probably want 'us' for US keyboards. Now you can reapply your xmodmap settings:

```
$ xmodmap ~/.xmodmaprc
```

It's still flaky, but it gets me back on the road.

## About Roger Keays

Roger Keays is an artist, an engineer, and a student of life. He has no fixed addressand has leftfootprints on 40-something different countries around the world. Roger is addicted to surfing. His other interests are music, psychology, languages, the proper use of semicolons, and finding good food.