

KEYCHRON

Q6 HE

100% Full-Size Wireless Custom Mechanical Keyboard
with Hall-Effect Magnetic Switches

USER MANUAL

Setup, Connectivity, Shortcuts & Features

Read carefully before first use
Keep this manual for future reference

■ Table of Contents

1. Welcome & Product Overview	3
2. What's in the Box	3
3. Keyboard Layout & Toggle Switches	4
4. Quick Start: First-Time Setup	5
5. Connectivity Modes	6
5.1 Wired Mode (Cable)	6
5.2 Bluetooth Mode (BT)	6
5.3 2.4 GHz Wireless Mode (G)	7
5.4 Switching Between Modes	8
6. OS Toggle: Mac / Windows	9
7. LED Status Indicators	9
8. Hall-Effect (HE) Features	10
9. Keyboard Shortcuts & Fn Combinations	12
10. Backlight & RGB Customization	14
11. Charging & Battery	15
12. Sleep Mode	15
13. Keychron Launcher (Web Configurator)	16
14. Factory Reset	17
15. Troubleshooting	17
16. Care & Maintenance	18
17. Technical Specifications	19

1. Welcome & Product Overview

Thank you for choosing the Keychron Q6 HE — a 100% full-size custom mechanical keyboard engineered around Hall-Effect (HE) magnetic switches. Unlike traditional mechanical switches that rely on physical contact, HE switches use magnets to detect key travel. This unlocks **adjustable actuation depth, rapid triggering, analog input, and multi-action keys** — features previously found only on premium gaming controllers.

The Q6 HE supports three connection modes — **USB-C wired, Bluetooth 5.2, and 2.4 GHz wireless** — and works seamlessly across macOS, Windows, iOS, and Android. Combined with QMK firmware and the Keychron Launcher web configurator, every key on the board is fully programmable.

TIP

If you only read one section of this manual, read **Section 5 (Connectivity Modes)**. The three-position toggle switch on the back of the keyboard is the heart of how the Q6 HE works.

2. What's in the Box

- Keychron Q6 HE keyboard (fully assembled, with magnetic switches and PBT keycaps installed)
- USB-C to USB-C braided cable
- USB-A to USB-C adapter
- 2.4 GHz wireless USB-A receiver (dongle)
- Extra keycap set (Mac / Windows variants for OS-specific legends)
- Keycap puller and switch puller
- Hex key (for case disassembly, if you ever want to mod the board)
- Quick start card

MISSING SOMETHING?

If any item is missing or damaged, contact Keychron support at support@keychron.com with your order number before using the keyboard.

3. Keyboard Layout & Toggle Switches

Two physical slide switches on the rear edge of the keyboard control the most important behaviors. **Locate them before doing anything else.**

Connectivity Toggle (3 positions)

The left toggle switches between the three connection modes:

Position	Mode	Use When
Cable	Wired (USB-C)	Plugged into a computer with the included cable. Charges the battery and uses 1000 Hz polling.
BT	Bluetooth 5.2	Wireless typing across up to 3 devices (laptop, phone, tablet). Lower power draw, slightly higher latency.
2.4G (also labeled 'G')	2.4 GHz Wireless	Gaming or low-latency wireless. Uses the included USB receiver. Polls at 1000 Hz like wired mode.

OS Toggle (2 positions)

The right toggle picks the operating-system layout. Each position activates its own QMK layer with the correct modifier and media-key mappings:

Mac / iOS — left position. Activates Layer 0 (default). Top row plays media; **⌘** and **⌥** are mapped where you'd expect on a Mac.

Win / Android — right position. Activates Layer 2. Ctrl/Alt/Win modifiers are mapped for Windows-style shortcuts.

IMPORTANT

Always set both toggles **before** connecting. The keyboard reads the switch positions on power-up and when changing modes. Flipping a switch mid-session will trigger a reconnect.

4. Quick Start: First-Time Setup

Follow these steps once, in order, the first time you use the keyboard:

- 1 Charge the keyboard for ~2 hours.** Plug the included USB-C cable into the keyboard and a 5V/1A USB port. The power LED glows red while charging and green when full.
- 2 Set the OS toggle** to Mac/iOS or Win/Android — match your computer.
- 3 Choose your connection mode** with the connectivity toggle: **Cable**, **BT**, or **2.4G**. See Section 5 for pairing details for each.
- 4 Pair or connect.** Wired works instantly. For BT, hold **Fn + 1** for 4 seconds. For 2.4G, plug in the dongle — it's pre-paired from the factory.
- 5 (Optional) Open the Keychron Launcher** at launcher.keychron.com in Chrome or Edge to remap keys, tune actuation points, and configure HE features.

NOTE ON CHARGING

The keyboard accepts up to **5V / 1A**. Avoid PD or fast chargers — they may damage the battery. A standard USB 2.0 / USB 3.0 port on your computer is ideal.

5. Connectivity Modes

This is the section you'll come back to most often. Each mode has its own pairing flow and its own quirks. The toggle on the back of the keyboard *physically selects* the mode — the keyboard cannot be in two modes at once.

5.1 Wired Mode (Cable)

Wired mode is the most reliable connection and the only mode that lets you flash firmware or program the keyboard via the Keychron Launcher.

Setup

Slide the connectivity toggle to **Cable**.

Plug the USB-C end of the cable into the keyboard's USB-C port (top-left edge of the case).

Plug the other end into your computer. Use the included USB-A adapter if your computer has no USB-C ports.

The keyboard powers on and your computer should recognize it immediately.

TIP

Wired mode disables Bluetooth and 2.4G radios entirely while connected — useful if you want to be sure no wireless signals are active (e.g., in secure environments).

5.2 Bluetooth Mode (BT)

Bluetooth lets you pair the Q6 HE with up to **three** devices simultaneously and switch between them with a single keystroke. Bluetooth 5.2 gives you a usable range of about 10 meters.

First-Time Pairing

Slide the connectivity toggle to **BT**. The keyboard powers on; the indicator on key **1** begins to slowly blink.

Hold **Fn + 1** for **4 seconds** until the indicator on the **1** key flashes rapidly. The keyboard is now in pairing mode for slot 1.

On your computer, phone, or tablet, open Bluetooth settings, search for new devices, and select **Keychron Q6 HE**.

When the indicator stops blinking, you're connected.

To pair a second or third device, hold **Fn + 2** or **Fn + 3** the same way.

Switching Between Paired Devices

Once devices are paired to slots 1, 2, and 3, you can switch instantly without re-pairing:

Fn + 1 — switch to BT device 1

Fn + 2 — switch to BT device 2

bullet + 3 — switch to BT device 3

TROUBLESHOOTING PAIRING

If the device sees the keyboard but won't connect, **remove the existing pairing** from your device's Bluetooth settings, then hold **Fn + 1/2/3** for 4 seconds again to re-enter pairing mode. Stale pairings are the #1 cause of reconnect issues.

5.3 2.4 GHz Wireless Mode (G)

The **G mode** (2.4 GHz wireless) uses the included USB-A receiver to give you wireless typing at the same **1000 Hz polling rate** as wired mode. This is the recommended wireless mode for gaming — Bluetooth is fine for office work, but 2.4G is what you want when input latency matters.

Setup

- bullet Locate the small USB-A receiver (it's typically tucked into a slot on the underside of the keyboard for storage).
- bullet Plug the receiver into a USB-A port on your computer.
- bullet Slide the connectivity toggle to **2.4G** (some labels show this as **G**).
- bullet The keyboard should auto-connect within 2–3 seconds. The indicator on the **4** key briefly blinks then turns off.

Re-Pairing the 2.4 GHz Receiver

The receiver is paired to your specific keyboard at the factory and almost never needs to be re-paired. If you do need to re-pair (for example, after replacing a lost dongle):

- bullet Set the connectivity toggle to **2.4G**.
- bullet Plug the receiver into your computer.
- bullet Hold **Fn + 4** for **4 seconds**. The **4** key indicator flashes rapidly.
- bullet Wait for the indicator to stop blinking — pairing is complete.

WHY 2.4G OVER BLUETOOTH FOR GAMING?

2.4G uses a dedicated radio link with a fixed polling interval of 1 ms. Bluetooth shares spectrum with Wi-Fi and other devices, and its polling can vary from 7.5 ms to 30+ ms depending on the host OS. For competitive games, the difference is felt.

5.4 Switching Between Modes

To switch between Cable, BT, and 2.4G, simply slide the toggle. The keyboard reconnects automatically using the last-known settings for that mode — for example, switching back to BT will reconnect to the device on the currently selected BT slot.

Common Workflows

Scenario	Toggle Position	Notes
Daily desktop work, computer charges keyboard	Cable	Lowest latency, no battery drain.
Gaming wirelessly	2.4G	Use the dongle. Same polling as wired.

Scenario	Toggle Position	Notes
Typing on phone & laptop interchangeably	BT	Pair both, swap with Fn+1 / Fn+2.
Couch typing on a TV/console	BT or 2.4G	BT 5.2 has ~10 m range. 2.4G has slightly longer range and lower latency.

6. OS Toggle: Mac / Windows

The Q6 HE was designed Mac-first but works equally well on Windows. The OS toggle on the back of the keyboard activates a different QMK layer with the correct modifier mapping for each platform:

Position	Active Layer	Modifier Map (left of spacebar)
Mac / iOS	Layer 0 (default)	Ctrl · Option (■) · Command (■)
Win / Android	Layer 2	Ctrl · Win · Alt

The keyboard ships with a second set of keycaps for the modifiers — swap them out with the included keycap puller if you want the legends to match your active OS.

PRO TIP

Each OS layer is independently customizable in the Keychron Launcher. You can save one layout for Mac and a completely different one for Windows on the same keyboard.

7. LED Status Indicators

The Q6 HE communicates state through three indicators: the power LED, the BT/2.4G channel indicators (under keys **1**, **2**, **3**, and **4**), and the Caps Lock LED.

LED	State	Meaning
Power	Solid red	Charging via USB-C.
Power	Solid green	Fully charged (still plugged in).
BT / 2.4G channel	Slow blink	Pairing mode active. Searching for a device.
BT / 2.4G channel	Fast blink	Reconnecting to last known device.
BT / 2.4G channel	Off	Connected and idle, or disconnected.
Caps Lock	Solid white	Caps Lock is enabled.

Press **Fn + B** at any time to display battery level via the RGB backlight: **green** > 70%, **blue** 30–70%, **red flashing** < 30%. Battery indicator works only in BT or 2.4G mode.

8. Hall-Effect (HE) Features

Hall-Effect switches measure the position of a magnet under the keycap with sub-millimeter precision. This means the keyboard knows exactly how far each key is pressed at every instant, not just whether it's pressed or not. Five major features are built on top of this:

Adjustable Actuation Point

Set the press depth at which each key registers — anywhere from **0.2 mm** (hair-trigger) to **3.8 mm** (deliberate), in 0.1 mm increments. Light actuation is great for fast typing and twitch shooters; deep actuation prevents accidental presses on rest keys like Shift or Ctrl.

Rapid Trigger

Instead of activating at a fixed depth, the key activates and resets based on direction of travel. The instant you start lifting your finger, the key is released — and the instant you press down again, it re-activates. Critical for movement keys in shooters where you tap to peek and re-strafe.

Analog Mode

Each key reports its press depth as a continuous value, like a controller's analog stick. A light press on **W** walks; a deep press runs. Excellent for racing and flight sims.

One Key, Four Actions

Map up to **four distinct actions** to a single key based on press depth — for example, press-down at 0.5 mm, bottom-in at 2.0 mm, bottom-out at 3.5 mm, and bounce-back. Useful for combo inputs in fighting games or to layer multi-stage actions on a single key.

Snap Action / Last-Key Priority (LKP)

When you press two opposing keys at once (e.g., A and D), the **most recently pressed** key wins and the other is automatically released. This makes counter- Strafing in tactical shooters effortless.

HE Profiles

The Launcher ships with three preset HE profiles you can switch between or customize:

Default — balanced settings for typing and general use.

Gaming — short actuation + Rapid Trigger on WASD-style keys.

Gamepad — analog mode enabled for controller-style input.

ALL HE FEATURES ARE CONFIGURED IN THE LAUNCHER

These advanced features can't be changed via keyboard shortcuts — open the Keychron Launcher (see Section 13) in Chrome or Edge and connect your keyboard via USB-C to access them.

9. Keyboard Shortcuts & Fn Combinations

All shortcuts use the **Fn** key as the modifier. Default mappings are listed below — every one of these can be remapped in the Keychron Launcher.

Connection & Pairing

Shortcut	Action
Fn + 1 (4 sec hold)	Pair Bluetooth device slot 1
Fn + 2 (4 sec hold)	Pair Bluetooth device slot 2
Fn + 3 (4 sec hold)	Pair Bluetooth device slot 3
Fn + 1 / 2 / 3	Switch to that paired Bluetooth device
Fn + 4 (4 sec hold)	Pair the 2.4 GHz receiver
Fn + B	Show battery level via RGB (BT / 2.4G mode only)

Backlight & RGB

Shortcut	Action
Fn + Q	Cycle through RGB lighting modes (next)
Fn + A	Cycle through RGB lighting modes (previous)
Fn + W	Increase backlight brightness
Fn + S	Decrease backlight brightness
Fn + E	Increase animation speed
Fn + D	Decrease animation speed
Fn + ← / →	Change LED color hue (within current mode)
Fn + Backlight key	Toggle backlight on / off

Media & Function Keys

On the Mac layer, the top row defaults to media keys; press **Fn** to access F1–F12. On the Windows layer, the top row defaults to F1–F12; press **Fn** to access media keys.

Shortcut	Action
Fn + F1	Screen brightness down (Win mode) / F1 (Mac mode)
Fn + F2	Screen brightness up (Win mode) / F2 (Mac mode)
Fn + F7	Previous track
Fn + F8	Play / Pause
Fn + F9	Next track
Fn + F10	Mute
Fn + F11	Volume down
Fn + F12	Volume up
Fn + X + L (4 sec)	Swap function row between F-keys and media keys

System & Utilities

Shortcut	Action
Fn + S + O (4 sec hold)	Disable / re-enable auto-sleep
Fn + S + L + R	Set auto-sleep timeout to 10 minutes
Fn + S + L + T	Set auto-sleep timeout to 20 minutes
Fn + S + L + Y	Set auto-sleep timeout to 30 minutes
Fn + I + D (6 sec hold)	Reverse the Insert / Delete key (toggle)
Fn + Caps + P (6 sec hold)	Make Caps Lock LED dedicated to Caps state (no RGB)
Fn + J + Z (4 sec hold)	Factory reset the keyboard firmware
RESERVED FOR THE LAUNCHER	

Magnetic-switch features (actuation point, Rapid Trigger, analog mode, snap action, multi-action keys, and HE profile switching) are **not** bound to keyboard shortcuts. They live in the Keychron Launcher.

10. Backlight & RGB Customization

The Q6 HE features south-facing per-key RGB LEDs. The south-facing layout means light shines from the bottom of each switch, which avoids the legend-shadow issue Cherry-profile keycaps have on most boards.

Adjusting on the Keyboard

- Use **Fn + Q / A** to cycle modes — static, breathing, rainbow wave, ripple, reactive, etc.
- Use **Fn + W / S** to brighten or dim.
- Use **Fn + E / D** to speed up or slow down animations.
- Use **Fn + ← / →** to shift the hue.

Adjusting via Launcher

For per-key colors, custom layers (e.g., highlight WASD in red while Caps Lock signals an active macro layer in cyan), or saving custom RGB profiles, open the Launcher's **Lighting** tab. You can paint individual keys or load community presets.

BATTERY TIP

RGB lighting is the largest battery draw on any wireless keyboard. Drop the brightness with **Fn + S** or turn the backlight off entirely to extend wireless runtime significantly.

11. Charging & Battery

The Q6 HE has a 4000 mAh internal battery. Charging takes about **5 hours** from empty to full.

- Charge via the USB-C port on the top-left edge of the case using the included cable.
- Use a **5V / 1A** source — a standard USB 2.0 port on a computer or a low-wattage charger. Avoid PD/fast chargers.
- Power LED is **red** while charging, **green** when full.
- You can use the keyboard while it charges — no need to wait.
- Press **Fn + B** to see remaining charge: green > 70%, blue 30–70%, red flashing < 30%.

WARNING

Lithium-polymer batteries degrade if left fully discharged for long periods. If you don't use the keyboard for several weeks, charge it to ~60% before storing.

12. Sleep Mode

To preserve battery in wireless modes, the keyboard auto-sleeps after a period of inactivity:

- Backlight off** — after ~5 minutes of no key presses.
- Deep sleep** — after ~10 minutes (default). Wireless radio disconnects.

Wake — press any key. Reconnect takes 1–2 seconds in BT mode.

Adjust the deep-sleep timer with the shortcuts in Section 9, or disable auto-sleep entirely with **Fn + S + o** held for 4 seconds.

13. Keychron Launcher (Web Configurator)

The Keychron Launcher is a free, browser-based tool that unlocks the full power of the Q6 HE. It runs entirely in Chrome, Edge, or Opera using the WebHID API — no software install required.

Connecting the Launcher

- Set the keyboard to **Cable** mode and plug it into your computer via USB-C.
- Open **launcher.keychron.com** in Chrome, Edge, or Opera.
- Click **Connect +**, then select **Keychron Q6 HE** from the WebHID prompt.
- The Launcher loads your current keymap and lighting settings.

What You Can Do

- **Remap any key**, including the Fn key itself. Up to 4 layers per OS.
- **Record macros** — string of key presses, delays, or text.
- **Tune actuation point** per key, from 0.2 mm to 3.8 mm.
- **Enable Rapid Trigger** globally or per-key.
- **Configure analog and multi-action keys**.
- **Set up Snap Action / LKP** for opposing keys.
- **Customize per-key RGB** and create lighting layers.
- **Calibrate** the magnetic switches if you replace any.
- **Import / export profiles** to back up your settings or share with others.
- **Switch between HE profiles**: Default, Gaming, Gamepad.

FIRMWARE UPDATES

The Launcher prompts you when a firmware update is available. Updates take ~30 seconds and preserve your keymaps, but it's still good practice to **export your profile** first.

VIA Compatibility

The Q6 HE also supports the open-source **VIA** configurator for users who prefer it. Note that VIA exposes only standard QMK features — the HE-specific features (actuation tuning, Rapid Trigger, analog) are only available in the Keychron Launcher.

14. Factory Reset

If the keyboard becomes unresponsive or you want to wipe all customizations, perform a factory reset:

- Set the toggle to **Cable** and plug the keyboard into a computer.
- Hold **Fn + J + Z** together for **4 seconds**.
- The LEDs flash to confirm. The default keymap is restored and all Bluetooth pairings are cleared.

Re-pair any wireless devices afterwards.

DEEPER RECOVERY

If a factory reset doesn't help, you can flash fresh firmware via the Launcher (Settings → Firmware → Flash). For Bluetooth or 2.4G receiver firmware issues, see the dedicated firmware-flash guides on keychron.com/pages/keychron-q6-he-user-guide.

15. Troubleshooting

Symptom	Try This
Keyboard won't turn on at all.	Plug into USB-C cable to charge. The battery may be fully depleted. Allow 10 minutes of charging before testing.
Bluetooth pairs but won't reconnect on next session.	Remove the existing pairing from your computer's BT settings, then hold Fn + 1/2/3 for 4 seconds and re-pair from scratch.
2.4G dongle works on one PC but not another.	Try a different USB-A port. Avoid USB 3.0 ports next to the dongle — they emit interference. A USB extender (placed near the keyboard) eliminates this.
Modifier keys are wrong (■ behaves like Win, etc.).	Check the OS toggle on the back of the keyboard. Mac/iOS = left, Win/Android = right.
Keyboard sleeps and won't wake quickly.	Press any key — reconnect takes 1–2 seconds. To prevent sleep entirely, hold Fn + S + O for 4 seconds.
Specific key isn't registering or registers at the wrong depth.	Open the Launcher and run Calibration . This re-zeroes the magnetic switches. Required after replacing any switch.
Keys feel inconsistent in actuation.	Run calibration. Then check that no debris has fallen between the switch and the keycap.
RGB lighting is dim or off.	Press Fn + W several times to brighten. If still off, the backlight may be toggled off — use the dedicated backlight key with Fn.
Custom keymap reverted after firmware update.	Reload your saved profile in the Launcher. Always export profiles before flashing firmware.
Nothing in this list works.	Perform a factory reset (Section 14). If that fails, contact support@keychron.com .

16. Care & Maintenance

Cleaning

- Wipe the case and keycaps with a slightly damp lint-free cloth. Avoid harsh chemicals and abrasives.
- Use compressed air to clear dust between keycaps.
- For deeper cleaning, pull keycaps with the included keycap puller, wash them in warm soapy water, and air dry before reinstalling.

Switch Replacement

The Q6 HE has hot-swappable sockets that accept **Gateron Double-Rail Magnetic Switches only**. Standard MX-style mechanical switches are **not compatible** — the PCB has no contact pads and depends on the magnetic field of the HE switch.

- Use the included switch puller — pinch it around the top and bottom of the switch and pull straight up.
- Insert the new switch with both pins lined up to the socket holes.
- Press straight down until you feel a click. Don't force — bent pins are the most common cause of dead keys.
- Open the Launcher and run **Calibration** after any switch swap.

Storage

- If unused for > 2 weeks, charge to ~60% before storing.
- Keep below 35°C / 95°F. Avoid direct sunlight (UV can fade keycap legends and degrade the battery).

DON'T DO THIS

Don't submerge the keyboard. Don't disassemble the case unless you know what you're doing — the battery is glued in place and improper handling can puncture it. Don't use solvents (acetone, alcohol > 70%) on the keycaps; they can dissolve PBT legends.

17. Technical Specifications

Layout	100% full-size (104 / 108 keys, ANSI; knob version available)
Switches	Gateron Double-Rail Magnetic Hall-Effect (hot-swappable, compatible only with magnetic switches)
Keycaps	Double-shot PBT, OSA profile (OEM Spherical Angled). Mac & Windows sets included.
Case	6063 aluminum, double-gasket mount, silicone gaskets, acoustic foam
Connectivity	USB-C wired, Bluetooth 5.2 (3 device slots), 2.4 GHz wireless (USB-A receiver)
Polling Rate	1000 Hz (wired and 2.4G); variable in Bluetooth
Actuation Range	0.2 – 3.8 mm, adjustable in 0.1 mm increments
HE Features	Rapid Trigger, Analog Mode, Snap Action / LKP, One-Key Four-Actions
Battery	4000 mAh lithium-polymer
Charging	5V / 1A via USB-C, ~5 hours full charge
Backlight	South-facing per-key RGB
Firmware	QMK (open source); Keychron Launcher and VIA web configurators
MCU	ARM Cortex with 256K flash
OS Support	macOS 10.12+, iOS, Windows 10+, Android, ChromeOS, Linux
Weight	~1.87 kg / 4.13 lb
Dimensions	445 × 144 × 32.5 mm (front height ~21 mm)
Cable	USB-C to USB-C, braided, 1.8 m
In the Box	Keyboard, cable, USB-A adapter, 2.4G receiver, extra keycaps, keycap puller, switch puller, hex key

Support & Resources

Official user guide: keychron.com/pages/keychron-q6-he-user-guide

Web configurator: launcher.keychron.com

Customer support: support@keychron.com

Community: [r/Keychron](#) on Reddit and the [Keychron Discord](#)

This manual was prepared as a replacement for the original printed quick-start guide. It reflects publicly available Keychron documentation and may not capture changes introduced by future firmware updates. Always check the official Keychron user guide page for the latest information on factory reset procedures, firmware flashing, and warranty terms.