

Key Bindings for Emacs

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1. Commands¹

M-x <Cmd> execute *Emacs* command <Cmd>
C-u <Num> <Cmd> execute <Cmd> with argument <Num> ²
C-g abort command
M-: evaluate Lisp expression
C-x C-e evaluate Lisp expression at point
M-F4 save all and exit *Emacs* (C-x C-c)

2. Files

M-x cd change current directory (of buffer)
F10 *Dired*, same-window (C-x d)
C-x 4 d *Dired*, other window
C-x 5 d *Dired*, other frame
C-S-RET show file/s at point/region in *Dired*
M-RET [Magit] *Dired* (other window) for directory of file at point
C-RET open file/url/e-mail at point; or [Org] visit link; or [CC] open #include or corresp. C/H file
C-x C-f open file
S-F2 save file (C-x C-s)
F2 save all (C-x s)
C-S-F2 EOL conversion to *NIX (LF), then save
M-S-F2 EOL conversion to DOS (CR/LF), then save
S-F5 locate file per *updatedb/everything* database
F11 open file/url/... from bookmarks (*Org*)
S-F11 add file/url/... to bookmarks (*Org*)

3. Buffers, Windows, Frames

1. Buffers

C-x b switch to another buffer
C-S-F10 buffer list (C-x C-b)
C-Page↓ show next buffer in same window (C-x →)
C-Page↑ show prev. buffer in same window (C-x ←)
C-w kill buffer (C-x k resp. C-x #)

2. Windows

Pause/C-# toggle dedicated & unsplittable
C-Tab goto other window (C-x o)
C-x 0 close window
C-x 1 single window
C-x 2 split window top/bottom
C-x 3 split window left/right
C-S-Page↓ widen window (C-x })
C-S-Page↑ narrow window (C-x {)
C-x + balance windows
q/C-c C-q quit window (in some modes)

3. Frames

C-x 5 2 open new frame
C-x 5 0 close frame

4. View

F3 speedbar on/off
S-F3 toggle fold/truncate long lines
C-S-F3 toggle view options³
F4 toggle visibility of [Prog] code/comment block; or [Org] subtree
S-F4 un-hide all [Prog] code/comment blocks; or [Org] subtrees
C-S-F4 toggle hide/show [CC] #if block; or [Org] all subtrees
F5 refresh, with C-u prefix revert buffer

5. Navigation

1. Save/Restore Point

C-x r SPC save point pos. to register. . .
C-x r j restore point pos. from register. . .
C-SPC C-SPC save point pos. to mark ring(s)
C-u C-SPC... pop point pos. from local mark ring
C-x C-SPC... pop point pos. from global mark ring (C-x C-@)

2. Moving Point

Home goto start of line (C-a)
S-Home goto first non-whitespace character (M-m)
End goto end of line (C-e)
C-Home goto start of buffer (M-<)
C-End goto end of file (M->)
C-S-g goto line number (M-g g)
C-l center current line in window
C→ forw. word (M-f)
C← backw. word (M-b)
M→ forw. sentence (M-e); or [Prog] balanced expr. (C-M-f)
M← backw. sentence (M-a); or [Prog] balanced expr. (C-M-b)
M-↓ forw. paragraph (M-); or [CC] parentheses level down (C-M-d)
M-↑ backw. paragraph (M-{}); or [CC] parentheses level up (C-M-u)
C-↑ backw. paragraph; or [CC] beginning of function (C-M-a)
C-↓ forw. paragraph; or [CC] end of function (C-M-e)
C-S-↑ [CC] backw. #if block, same level (C-c C-p)
C-S-↓ [CC] forw. #if block, same level (C-c C-n)
C-S-← [CC] up to containing #if block (C-c C-u)
C-S-→ [CC] forw. down one level of #if block

3. Interactive Search (*Isearch*)

C-s/C-r search forw./backw.
C-M-s/C-M-r search *Reg-Exp* forw./backw.
C-w copy current word to search string
C-y copy rest of line to search string
M-y paste to search string
M-c toggle case sensitivity
M-r toggle regular expression search

M-e edit search string

M-n next search string

M-p prev. search string

C-S-s search symbol/word at point forw. (M-s .); or [Dired, VC, Buffers] search in selected items

4. Grep/Find, Compile

F7 compile
F9 grep in ([Dired, VC] marked) files
S-F9 find in files
C-F9 grep in buffers (Occur)
C-S-F9 grep in (project) files, defined by tags table
F8 jump to next error/match (M-g n)
S-F8 jump to prev. error/match (M-g p)
C-S-F8 jump to first error/match

5. [CC] Etags

C-S-F5 lookup (project) file via tags table, using **IDO**
F12 find tag (M-.)
C-u F12 (incremental) find next (C-u M-.)
C-x 4 . find tag in other window
C-x 5 . find tag in other frame
S-F12 pop from tag (M-*)
C-F12 find matching tags
C-S-F12 completion find tag, using **IDO**

6. Edit

1. Input

C-z undo (C-x u)
C-q enter control character ⁴
C-S-q UTF-8 special characters popup menu
C-x C-q toggle buffer read-only (view mode)
C-S-SPC mode-specific completion (C-M-i); or [CC] *Hippie-Expand* (etags) completion

2. Mark

C-SPC set „mark“
C-a mark all (C-x h)
C-f mark function (C-M-h)

3. Copy/Paste

C-Insert copy (M-w)
S-Insert paste last killed (C-y)
M-Insert paste next from history (M-y)
C-x r s copy to register
C-x r i paste/insert from register

4. Delete/Kill

C-Delete delete line (like C-k, but w/o copy to kill ring)
S-Delete kill region (delete & copy)
M-Delete delete word forw.
M-Backspace delete word backw.

¹Keys in *Emacs* notation: C=Control (Strg), S=Shift, M=Meta (Alt).

²<Num> might be a repetition count, like for C-u 78 *.

³For example [CC] Whitespace, [Org] links, [Shell] shorten prompt, [Dired] hidden files, [w3m] show images.

⁴For example: C-q C-i inserts a “hard” tab, C-q 25be inserts the UTF-8 char 0x25be.

C-x Delete delete sentence forw. (M-k)
C-x Backspace delete sentence backw.
C-c Delete [CC] hungry delete forw.
C-c Backspace [CC] hungry delete backw.
C-c C-d [CC] toggle *Hungry Delete* (“h”)

7. Formating

1. Characters

M-l word to lowercase
M-u word to uppercase
M-c capitalize word
C-x C-l region to lowercase
C-x C-u region to uppercase

2. Indentation

Tab indent line/region
M-RET [Prog] context-sensitive newline/indent
C-c C-q [CC] indent function
C-M-q [CC] indent expression
C-c C-l [CC] toggle *Electric Indent Mode* (“l”)
C-c C-a [CC] toggle *Auto Newline* (“a”)

3. Comments

F6 insert/reformat comment (DWIM — Do What I Mean)
S-F6 insert/line-up comment (M-;)
C-F6 insert a NOTE comment box
C-S-F6 delete comment
M-q format multiline comment
C-x f set fill column
C-x ; set comment column based on point

8. Special

1. Version Control

S-F10 VC status (C-x v d) resp. *Magit* (toggle)
C-x v ! VC *Ediff* current file
C-x v = VC Diff current file
C-x v a update *ChangeLog* from VC logs (not impl. for *Git*)
C-x 4 a update *ChangeLog* for current buffer/file
C-x ! Ediff two buffers

2. Dired⁵

F5 copy file (C)
F6 rename/move file (R)
F7 create directory
F8 delete file (D)
C-S-F12 create (etags/cscope) tags database
Insert toggle mark (m/u)
RET open file, quit *Dired*
SPC open file in other window

Backspace goto parent directory
! shell command on marked files
& same as “!”, but async. execution
C-x ! Ediff directories
M-u file name to uppercase
M-l file name to lowercase
+ mark, using regular expression (% m)
- clear all marks
s toggle sort by name/date
C-u s edit ls options
C-c C-a attach file(s) to new email

3. Spell

M-\$ spell check word
C-\$ (Fly-) spell correct word (C-c \$)
C-. (Fly-) spell correct word automatically
C-, goto next (Fly-) spell error

4. Shell & Comint

M-! shell command (opt. on active region)
C-d send EOF to process (kills the buffer)
C-c C-d send EOF to process
C-c C-k send INTR to process, with C-u prefix send KILL

5. Help & Info

F1 read Man page
S-F1 apropos *Emacs* command, with C-u prefix also functions
C-S-F1 apropos *Emacs* option, with C-u prefix also variables
C-h a apropos *Emacs* symbol, with C-u prefix incl. properties
C-h [?fv...] describe *Emacs* help/function/variable/...
C-x = describe char after point (more with prefix C-u)
C-c C-s [CC] show syntactic context

6. Ido (Completion)⁶

C-g fallback to non-Ido input (C-x C-f)
M-e edit input (C-e)
M-c toggle case sensitivity (C-c)
M-r toggle regular expression search (C-t)
C-S-F3 toggle *flex* matching
TAB, ? show completion list
→, ↓ next candidate (C-s)
←, ↑ prev. candidate (C-r)
M-n next directory from history
M-p prev. directory from history
~/ jump to home directory
// jump to root directory

7. Company

M-c toggle case sensitivity
↓ next candidate (M-n)
↑ prev. candidate (M-p)

TAB complete with common part
F1 show documentation for candidate (C-h)
C-w show candidate in context⁷
C-s incremental search in candidates⁸
C-M-s start incremental filtering in candidates

9. Misc

Menu Imenu

M-Menu jump to global menu

C-Menu open (predefined) site-file from popup menu

C-S-Menu execute (predefined) site-tool from popup menu

A. Regular Expressions

Characters

. any single character
[...] character set
[^...] complement of character set

Pseudo

^ / \$ beginning/end of line (newline based)
\‘ / \’ beginning/end of line (w/o newline)
\< / \> beginning/end of word
\< / \> beginning/end of symbol
\W / \w not/ word-constituent character
\S Ψ / \s Ψ not/ matches syntax class Ψ =⁹

- whitespace
- symbol
- w** word
- . punctuation

Suffixes

***** repeated 0 or more time (longest match): 0...
+ repeated 1 or more time (longest match): 1...
? repeated 0 or 1 time (longest match): 0|1
***?, +?, ??** alternative form (shortest match, non-greedy variants)
\{N\} N times
\{N,M\} N to M times

Grouping

\(...\) grouping
\| alternative

Replacement

\& whole match
\# use group # (1...9)
\? edit each replacement

⁵Shadowed global key bindings for F5-F8 are available via prefix argument C-u.

⁶For a full list of *Ido* key bindings see function `ido-find-file` (C-h f).

⁷Does not work with *Clang* and *Irony* package.

⁸For a full list of *Company* search key bindings see function `company-search-candidates` (C-h f).

⁹Incomplete, for a full list see [Table of Syntax Classes](#) online.

