

GNU Emacs Reference Card

(for version 20)

Leaving Emacs

exit Emacs permanently **C-x C-c**

Files

read a file into Emacs **C-x C-f**
save a file back to disk **C-x C-s**
save **all** files **C-x s**
insert contents of another file into this buffer **C-x i**
write buffer to a specified file **C-x C-w**

Getting Help

The help system is simple. Type **C-h** (or **F1**) and follow the directions. If you are a first-time user, type **C-h t** for a **tutorial**.

remove help window **C-x 1**
scroll help window **C-M-v**
apropos: show commands matching a string **C-h a**
show the function a key runs **C-h c**
describe a function **C-h f**
get mode-specific information **C-h m**

Error Recovery

abort partially typed or executing command **C-g**
recover a file lost by a system crash **M-x recover-file**
undo an unwanted change **C-x u** or **C-_**
restore a buffer to its original contents **M-x revert-buffer**
redraw garbaged screen **C-l**

Search and Replace

search forward **C-s**
search backward **C-r**
exit incremental search **RET**
abort current search **C-g**

Use **C-s** or **C-r** again to repeat the search in either direction. If Emacs is still searching, **C-g** cancels only the part not done.

interactively replace a text string **M-%**

Motion

scroll to next screen **C-v**
scroll to previous screen **M-v**
scroll left **C-x <**
scroll right **C-x >**
scroll current line to center of screen **C-u C-l**

Killing and Deleting

entity to kill **backward** **forward**
character (delete, not kill) **DEL** **C-d**
line (to end of) **M-0 C-k** **C-k**
yank back last thing killed **C-y**

Multiple Windows

When two commands shown, the second is for “other frame.”

delete all other windows **C-x 1**
split window, above and below **C-x 2** **C-x 5 2**
delete this window **C-x 0** **C-x 5 0**
split window, side by side **C-x 3**

Formatting

indent current **line** (mode-dependent) **TAB**
indent **region** (mode-dependent) **C-M-**

The Minibuffer

The following keys are defined in the minibuffer.

complete as much as possible **TAB**
show possible completions **?**
abort command **C-g**

Buffers

select another buffer **C-x b**
list all buffers **C-x C-b**
kill a buffer **C-x k**

Shells

execute a shell command **M-!**
start a shell in window ***shell*** **M-x shell**

Info

enter the Info documentation reader **C-h i**
find specified function or variable in Info **C-h C-i**

Moving within a node:

scroll forward **SPC**
scroll reverse **DEL**
beginning of node **.** (dot)

Moving between nodes:

next node **n**
previous node **p**
move **up** **u**
follow cross reference (return with 1) **f**
return to last node you saw **l**

Other:

run Info **tutorial** **h**
quit Info **q**

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shortened by Greg Baker, January 2001

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Unix Reference

(for the CSIL lab)

Files and Directories

When specifying a directory, **~** indicates the home directory and **..** indicates one level up.

view current directory contents **ls**
view contents of *directory* **ls directory**
display current directory **pwd**
change current directory **cd directory**
remove empty directory **rmdir directory**
create directory **mkdir directory**
remove file **rm file**
copy a file **cp from to**
move a file **mv from to**

Working with files

view a text file **more file**
start Emacs **emacs file**
start Emacs in background (lab only) **emacs file &**

Other commands

open Netscape (in lab only) **netscape &**
fix your backspace (if not working) **stty erase ^H**

More help

help on a command **man command**
find commands about *word* **apropos word**

X Windows

This is the GUI you use in the lab. You can right-click on the background and select “Logout” to exit or “Programs” and then “Terminal” to get a command window.

C programs

compile a C program **gcc program.c**
add to output as *prog* **-o prog**
execute the program in *prog* **./prog**

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