

R. Yoshii - Emacs Quick Help (for cs111, 112, 212, 311)

Emacs is an editor available on Unix-based machines.
You can use it to create text files (e.g. programs, letters, memos, etc).

To create a new file, type

"emacs", then a space, then the name of the file.
Do NOT include the " marks in what you type.

If your terminal type has been set up correctly, then
you should get a blank screen. And arrow keys should work.

To go back to edit an existing file, type

"emacs", a space, then the name of the file.

If you exited emacs accidentally without saving,

the last automatically saved version is in <file>~
-- that is, the name of your file with a "~" appended to it.
#<file># is newest version if available.
Rename (mv) the newest version first before going back to it.
i.e. do not edit the ~ and # files.

COMMANDS

In the following

^V == press Control and V at the same time, then release both.
esc V == press the Esc key and release it, followed by V.

!!!!!!Do NOT use the mouse while you are in emacs!!!!!!

TYPING:

Type the text as you would want it to appear on the screen.

Use Return at the end of each line. Do NOT rely on emacs to break
your typing onto a new line -- it will not actually do so,
though it will simulate it on the screen.

If you get a split screen and an emacs tutorial by accident
(this happens when you press Backspace), press Return.

If it does not work,
just do ^x ^c to get out of emacs
and then get back to the file again.

MOVING AROUND:

Use the 4 arrow keys. Do not press Return in the middle of a line unless you want to break the line there: Return is not a movement key.

esc <	beginning of file	(press and release the ESC key, followed by the "<" key)
esc >	end of file	(likewise but using the ">" key)
^a	beginning of line	(with CTRL held down, press "A", and release them both.)
^e	end of line	
^v	screen fwd	
esc v	screen bwd	
esc b	word left	
esc f	word right	

DELETING AND PUTTING BACK:

Delete key	delete one character before cursor
^d	delete after cursor (can keep on pressing to delete multiple chars)
esc d	delete word after
^k	delete ("kill") rest of line after the cursor (can keep on pressing to delete the line break, then the next line, then its break, etc.)
^y	put back ("yank back") the most recently deleted lines, putting them where the cursor is.
^l	clean up screen

SEARCH:

^s	search forward
^r	search backward
esc x replace-str	replace string by another string

DEALING WITH COMMANDS:

^u # command	repeat command # times e.g. ^U 5 ^D delete 5 characters
^g	quit out of command that you have partly entered

WINDOW COMMANDS:

`^x 2` split window into 2 windows
 (current window has the cursor in it)

`^x ^f` visit another file and put it in the current window

`^x o` go to the other window (use capital-oh, not zero).

`^x 1` make it one window (current one only)

[You can move or copy lines from another file]

QUITTING:

`^x ^s` save file; do not exit

`^x ^c` save and exit

End.