

# So is vim/emacs [in]efficient ?

emacs vs vim

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# Agenda

## 1 vim

- History
- Survival Skills
- Power Usage

## 2 emacs

- History
- Survival Skills
- Power Usage
- The Kitchen Sink



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# It all started with **ed** ...

Then came **ex**

## do one thing, and do it well

It is not **VI** (roman **six**) but '**Wee Eyee**'.

- **ed**: The basic editor.
- **sed**: The stream editor.
- **ex**: Improved and rewritten ed.
- **vi**: Visual mode in ex.
- **vim**: Improved and rewritten vi.



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# How to quit...

vim is a **modal** editor.

You will benefit if you touch type.

- **normal**: The default mode.
- **insert**: The insert mode.
- **ex**: The ex mode.

How to get **help** ?

In normal mode **:help**

**vimtutor** if you want an online tutorial

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# Power Usage

merely scratching the surface

vim is a very **powerful** editor

- **movement**: Awkward at first.
- **windows**: Splitting windows and movement.
- **tabs**: Moving around in tabs.
- **indentation**: Indenting code.
- **autocomplete**: Dial **x** for completion.
- **compilation**: Find errors quickly. (*colder, cnewer*)
- **man**: go to a specific manual page without leaving vim
- **ctags**: move around code efficiently.
- **cscope**: yet another way of moving around code.



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# Plugins

extensibility - community

vim has a huge collection of third party plugins..

- **pathogen**: A plugin for easy installation of other plugins
- **NERDTree**: Explore your project.
- **youcompleteme**: Autocompleteion.
- **SuperTab**: Yet another Autocompleteion plugin.
- **fugitive**: A git wrapper for vim

Easiest way to install is by **pathogen**

Just modify the vimrc **execute pathogen#infect()**



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## Do everything philosophy

- **EMACS**: *E*dit*ing* *MAC*ro*S*
- Written in **C** and provides **lisp**.
- It is self-documenting.
- Church of Emacs
- Editor War, the longest running flame war on internet. (who's the best)

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# How to quit...

It is not an **editor** but an '**Operating System**', which happens to edit too. Emacs has **modes** which alter the meaning of commands. Emacs commands are elaborate sequence, called **chords**. They are very confusing to startoff with.

- **C-x**: The most used chords, they are used frequently.
- **M-x**: The extended chords, or functions typically.
- **Major Mode**: What are you doing.
- **Minor Mode**: Extension to the major-mode

How to get **help** ?

emacs is a self documenting editor

**C-h m** mode-specific help.

**C-h f** describe a function.

**C-h k** describe a function a key runs.

**M-x help** interactive help.



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# Power Usage

merely scratching the surface

It takes some time to master emacs.

- **movement**: Awkward at first.
- **buffers**: Open files and *not* files.
- **windows**: Splitting windows and movement.
- **frames**: Moving around in frames
- **indentation**: Indenting code.
- **autocomplete**: autocomplete-mode
- **compilation**: Find errors quickly. (*M-x compile*)
- **debugging**: Run a debugger inside emacs. (*M-x gdb*)
- **man**: Read man-pages in emacs. (*M-x woman*)
- **gtags**: Move around code efficiently.



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# Plugins

extensibility - community

emacs has everything but the kitchen sink.

**melpa** is the emacs repository for plugins.

- **auto-complete**: auto completion. (builtin)
- **company-mode**: better auto-complete.
- **projectile**: View your projects.
- **js2-mode**: javascript mode, best of the best.
- **magit**: A git wrapper for emacs
- **web-mode**: major mode for all html templates.

Installation is just calling a function

**M-x package-list-packages**



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# What if..

So what else can emacs do to impress me ?

As promised emacs has everything but the kitchen sink.

- **pdf**: Yes it can (builtin), but **pdf-tools** is better.
- **ppt**: Yes it can (builtin)
- **internet**: Yes, that too.
- **shell**: Yes, it has a builtin shell.
- **calender**: Yes, it manages your appointments.
- **dairy**: It can keep your secrets too.
- **music**: It so happens, it can do that too.
- **notes**: **org-mode** is one of the single reasons people switch to emacs.
- **games**: It has games too, if you are bored.
- **mail**: It has a builtin mail client.
- **calculator**: It has a fully programable scientific calculator.
- **irc**: It seem's it can do irc too.

Any guesses why people call it an 'OS'



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# Take Aways

- Both **emacs** & **vim** are **very powerful** editors.
- **Invest** some time to learn them, you will not regret it.
- In appropriate hands both can **shred** text at speed of thought.
- Don't get involved in flame wars, exploit the best of both the worlds.
- I barely illustrated a mere 1% of the power of these beasts.
  - Manuals are your friends.
  - I am feeling lucky, try it.

# For Further Reading I



Drew Neil.

*Practical Vim.*

The Pragmatic Programmers, 2012.



Richard M Stallman et al.

*GNU Emacs Manual.*

Free Software Foundation, 2014.



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