

# Emacs Cheat Sheet

## Starting emacs

- > **emacs** **ENTER**  
to start emacs.
- > **emacs filename** **ENTER**  
to start emacs and load a file
- > **emacs -nw filename** **ENTER**  
to start emacs with no new window (load file)

## Quitting

- CTRL** **X** **CTRL** **C**  
quit emacs (Can be used with impunity -- the system will prompt if the workspace has not yet been saved.)
- CTRL** **G**  
aborts any command in progress

## Help

- CTRL** **H** **T**  
to see the tutorial
- CTRL** **H** **A** *topic* **ENTER**  
to see help about *topic*
- CTRL** **X** **U**  
undo the last command

## Cursor Positioning

- CTRL** **F** or **→**  
forward (right) one character.
- CTRL** **B** or **←**  
back (left) one character
- CTRL** **P** or **Up**  
up one character
- CTRL** **N** or **↓**  
down one character
- ESC** **B**  
left one word
- ESC** **F**  
right one word

- CTRL** **A**  
to beginning of line
- CTRL** **E**  
to end of line
- ESC** **<**  
start of document
- ESC** **>**  
end of document
- ESC** **V**  
page up
- CTRL** **V**  
page down

- CTRL** **L**  
cursor in middle of screen
- CTRL** **U** *20* **CTRL** **N**  
advance *20* lines
- CTRL** **X** **W**  
display the line number where the cursor is located
- ESC** **X** *goto-line* **ENTER** *999*  
**ENTER**  
go to line number *999*

## Search and Replace

- CTRL** **S** *pattern***text** **ENTER**  
search for *pattern***text**; cursor moves as you type. Press **ENTER** once at the correct location
- CTRL** **R** *pattern***text** **ENTER**  
search backwards for *pattern***text**; cursor moves as you type.
- CTRL** **S** **ENTER** **ENTER**  
search for the next occurrence
- ESC** **%** *oldstring* **ENTER** *newstring* **ENTER**  
Search for *oldstring* and

## Regions

- CTRL** **SPC**  
set mark at cursor
- CTRL** **W**  
kill region
- ESC** **W**  
copy region to kill ring
- CTRL** **Y**  
yank back last thing killed

## Loading and Saving

- CTRL** **X** **CTRL** **F** *filename*  
create new *filename* for editing (clears workspace)
- CTRL** **X** **CTRL** **F** *filename*  
load in *filename* for editing
- CTRL** **X** **CTRL** **W** *filename*  
write (save) as *filename*
- CTRL** **X** **CTRL** **S**  
resave under the current filename (based on above or name given when starting emacs)

replace it with *newstring*.  
The **x** key confirms each  
replacement, **n** skips it, **q** to  
exit

## Common Lisp

**CTRL x L**

start Common Lisp lisp  
image



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