

Overview of nano's shortcuts

The editor's keystrokes and their functions

File handling

Ctrl+S Save current file
 Ctrl+O Offer to write file ("Save as")
 Ctrl+R Insert a file into current one
 Ctrl+X Close buffer, exit from nano

Editing

Ctrl+K Cut current line into cutbuffer
 Alt+6 Copy current line into cutbuffer
 Ctrl+U Paste contents of cutbuffer
 Alt+T Cut until end of buffer
 Ctrl+] Complete current word
 Alt+3 Comment/uncomment line/region
 Alt+U Undo last action
 Alt+E Redo last undone action

Search and replace

Ctrl+Q Start backward search
 Ctrl+W Start forward search
 Alt+Q Find next occurrence backward
 Alt+W Find next occurrence forward
 Alt+R Start a replacing session

Deletion

Ctrl+H Delete character before cursor
 Ctrl+D Delete character under cursor
 Alt+Bsp Delete word to the left
 Ctrl+Del Delete word to the right
 Alt+Del Delete current line

Operations

Ctrl+T Execute some command
 Ctrl+J Justify paragraph or region
 Alt+J Justify entire buffer
 Alt+B Run a syntax check
 Alt+F Run a formatter/fixer/arranger
 Alt+: Start/stop recording of macro
 Alt+; Replay macro

Moving around

Ctrl+B One character backward
 Ctrl+F One character forward
 Ctrl+← One word backward
 Ctrl+→ One word forward
 Ctrl+A To start of line
 Ctrl+E To end of line
 Ctrl+P One line up
 Ctrl+N One line down
 Ctrl+↑ To previous block
 Ctrl+↓ To next block
 Ctrl+Y One page up
 Ctrl+V One page down
 Alt+\ To top of buffer
 Alt+/ To end of buffer

Special movement

Alt+G Go to specified line
 Alt+] Go to complementary bracket
 Alt+↑ Scroll viewport up
 Alt+↓ Scroll viewport down
 Alt+< Switch to preceding buffer
 Alt+> Switch to succeeding buffer

Information

Ctrl+C Report cursor position
 Alt+D Report line/word/character count
 Ctrl+G Display help text

Various

Alt+A Turn the mark on/off
 Tab Indent marked region
 Shift+Tab Unindent marked region
 Alt+V Enter next keystroke verbatim
 Alt+N Turn line numbers on/off
 Alt+P Turn visible whitespace on/off
 Alt+X Hide or unhide the help lines
 Ctrl+L Refresh the screen