Reference Sheet for Emacs

Why?

I have so many things installed, I'm forgetting some of the stuff that I installed to be more productive! Whence this "personal" cheat sheet. —I'm not trying to be comprehensive; see the existing cheatsheets for Emacs and Org.

C-h	C-	-h		Help for the help command
C-h	h			Learn how to say 'hello'
C-h	t			Read the Emacs tutorial
C-h	m			Help for current mode
C-h	b			Describe all key bindings
C-h	i	m	emacs	Read the Emacs manual

In nearly every Emacs application, press

- ?, h Obtain help; see listing of possible commands.
- q Quit current application, closing buffer.

Use Emacs in any text area on my OS with Cmd Shift e.

Getting Help

C-h o	Describe symbol at point; best one.
C-h k,f,m	Describe key press, function name, or mode
C-h a	Apropos: Show commands matching a string
C-h e	Open *Messages* buffer in another window
C-h i	Enter Info documentation reader

Windows

C-x 0,1	Delete this, other windows
C-x 2,3	Split window above, to the side
C-x o	Switch cursour to other window
C-x ^	Increase window height
C-x {,}	Shrink, widen window

Using $C-x \ 5 \dots$ in place of $C-x \dots$ operates on the 'frame' level -i.e., other Emacs GUI instances. C-x 4 ? is for acting on the other window, where ? = f, d, b for finding file, directory, buffer. Perhaps most useful is C-x 4 c for working with different parts of the same buffer.

"s- <arrow>"</arrow>	Jump to window via arrow key
"M- <tab>"</tab>	Flip to next buffer
"M-S- <tab>"</tab>	Flip to previous buffer

Workspace Manager

All commands are prefixed by C-x x; main commands:

s n,→, p,←	Select a space to go to or create it. Next, previous space	
c	Query a perspective to kill.	
r	Rename a perspective.	
A	Add buffer to current perspective & remove it from a	a

Undo tree

- ♦ C-x u Visualise undo tree.
 - o t, d toggle timestamps and diff display.
 - o M-{,} Go to previous, next branching point.
 - o q Exit at currently selected state.
- ⋄ C-x r u Save current buffer state.
- ⋄ C-x r U Restore saved buffer state.

Save & restore is useful for experimenting with a function definition, for example.

Killing

C,M-d	forward kill character, word
C,M-del	backward kill word prefix
C-k , "M-k"	forward, backward kill line
C-x del	backward kill sentence
C,M-w	Kill, copy region
C-x r k	Kill region
C-x C-o	Delete all but one consecutive blank lines
M-y	Show kill ring, with "helm"

Marking

C-SPC	Set mark
C-x C-x	Exchange point & mark
C-x h	Mark buffer
[C-u] M-@	Mark a / words away
M-h	Mark current paragraph

Formatting

By default C-t is transpose characters; I'm using it quickly open a terminal.

C-M-\	Indent region, mode dependent
C-x tab	Indent region arg columns or \leftarrow, \rightarrow
M-;	Toggle comment region
C-c ;	Org toggle comment subtree
C-M-o	Move rest of line vertically down
M-n',1	Upcase, downcase rest of word
rom all others,	Upcase, downcase region
C-x r t	Prepend string to marked lines
M-t	Transpose current word with next
C-x C-t	Transpose current line with above

Dictionary & Thesaurus

M-\$	Spellcheck word
"M-#"	Synonym for word
"M-!"	Define word
"M-~"	Grammar check region

Textual Navigation

C-b, f	\leftarrow , \rightarrow character
M-b, f	\leftarrow , \rightarrow word
C-p, n	↑,↓ line
M-g g	go to a line
C-a, e	start, end line
M-a, e	start, end sentence
M-{, }	start, end paragraph
M-<, >	start, end buffer
C-v	down page
M-v	up page
C-1	centre page
$\mathtt{M-r}$	relocate point

Org-mode: All commands are prefixed by C-c.

next, previous heading
n,p same level heading
backward to higher heading
↑↓ jump to another heading
Fold current tree

Using the "super key" to navigate between org blocks.

Previous, next src block Toggled editing src block "s-e"

Mail

C-x m Compose C-c C-s Send M-x gnus Read mail

Then,

RET Open article
B m Move an article

! Mark as read, but it keep around

d Mark as read; archive it.

R Reply in-place.

r Reply in clean slate.

Delete an article by moving it to 'Trash'.

Completion

M-/ Expand previous word dynamically M-<digit> Select one of the 10 suggestions

Narrowing

This allows us to "zoom in" or "focus" on a particular region; the rest of the buffer is 'hidden'. All commands begin with C-x n.

- n Narrow to region
- w Widen to full view
- e Narrow to org element
- s Org narrow current tree

Searching

C-s Search current buffer
'C-M-s'' Search all buffers
'C-S-s'' Back to where search began
M-s M-w Search region in Web

C-c C-e during a search to make live edits.

Org Visibility

tab Cycle visibility
S-tab Cycle global visibility
C-c C-x C-v Toggle inline image display
C-c C-x C-1 Toggle, preview, LATEX for tree

Structure Editing

<return></return>	Newline with indentation
M- <return></return>	Newline with new org item
M-S- <return></return>	Ditto, but with a TODO marker
C-M- <return></return>	Newline, cursor at start
C- <return></return>	New heading after current content
C-S- <return></return>	Ditto, but with a TODO marker
C-c -,*	Demote, promote headings to items
M-←,→	Promote, demote heading
C-c C-t	Set state of tree
C-c , A,B,C	Set priority A, B, or C for tree
C-c , Spc	Remove priority from tree
M-↑,↓	Move any org element up or down
M-S-↑,↓	Move a line up or down
С-с с	Capture new item
C-c C-x C-a	Archive tree

Babel

C-c C-c	Execute code block
C-c C-v j	Insert header argument
C-c C-v I	View, possibly global, header info
C-c C-v g	Go to named block
C-c C-v n,p	Go to next, previous block
C-c C-v d	Demarcate, split up, code block
C-c C-v t	Tangle all blocks in buffer

Misc

M-x list-input-methods show all input methods

C-c C-x p,e	Set property, effort of tree
C-c C-x i	Capture column view in dynamic block
C-+	Increase text size
C	Decrease text size
"C-x d"	Toggle Neotree file browser
"C-c C-m"	Re-compile; execute local compile command
" <f5>", s-r</f5>	Reload buffer from disk
"C-"	Swap 2 horizontal windows to vertical
"C-t"	Quickly pop-up a terminal
C-c C-o	Open link at point

Org Speed Keys

With cursor at the beginning of an org headline:

ш	The seal of COMMENTS in the
#	Toggle COMMENT-ing
t	Select state
s	Toggle narrowing
I,O,E	Clock in, out; add effort
p,n	Previous, next heading
f,b	p,n for same-level
u	Upward to parent
С	Cycle visibility
W	Refile, relocate
^	Sort children trees
D,U	Move heading down, up
L,R	Promote, demote
1,2,3	Select priority
?	See possible keys

Timestamps

C-c .	Prompt for date & insert timestamp
C-c C-d	Insert deadline for tree
C-c C-s	Schedule a tree
S-↑,↓,→,←	Alter timestamp by a day $\rightarrow \leftarrow$, year $\downarrow \uparrow$
C-c C-x C-t	Globally toggle date display

Clocking Time

C-c C-x C-i,o	Start, stop clock on tree
C-c C-x C-r	Insert, update, clock report
C-c C-x C-e	Insert effort for current clock

Agenda

C-c c	Capture an idea quickly
C-c a	Open agenda to see tasks
C-c j	Discuss what's accomplished
C-c C-z	Add note to current tree
C-c C-s	Schedule a task
C-c C-a	Archive a task
C-c a a "C-c a c "C-c a u	

a	C-c a t	Compile global todo list
	C-c C-x b	Open agenda task in dedicated indirect buffer
	F	Toggle follow mode: See details as you navigate
	v	Change agenda view, e.g., to day or month
	f / b	Forward, backward a view, e.g., day or month
	R	See report of total clocked time
	. / j	Go to today, or prompt for a date
	e, t, a	Remotely set effort, state, or archive
	I, O, X	Start, stop, cancel clock on current item
	C-c C-x C-r	See clocked times report