

# 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)

## 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

## 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

**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  
go to line number 999

## Search and Replace

**CTRL S patterntext** **ENTER**  
search for *patterntext*; cursor moves as you type. Press **ENTER** once at the correct location

**CTRL R patterntext** **ENTER**  
search backwards for *patterntext*; cursor moves as you type.

**CTRL S** **ENTER** **ENTER**  
search for the next occurrence

**ESC % oldstring** **ENTER** **newstring** **ENTER**  
Search for *oldstring* and replace it with *newstring*. The **y** key confirms each replacement, **n** skips it, **q** to exit

## 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)

## Common Lisp

**CTRL X L**  
start Common Lisp lisp image



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