

**Nu**

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Modern keybinding for Emacs

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# 1 Overview

“Nu “ is a modern keybinding for Emacs.

nu-mode is a global minor mode, its keymap, and the commands which are not provided in raw Emacs.

Modern, means respecting conventions like - `^f` to find - `^r` to replace - `^s` to save - `^x`, `^c`, `^v` to cut, copy, paste

To preserve access to many functions, nu-mode relies on prompts. For example, `Control+f` raises a prompt precising which key to press to obtain which function => with `Control+f` then `f` start a regexp search, with `Control+f` then `g` go-to a line (to be precised), with `Control+f` then `s` go to previous selection.

nu-emacs does not only provides nu-mode. There are also two independant parts - nu-alias is a simple mechanism to define aliases into org-mode file(s). This way its easier to maintain aliases to be invoked from Mx. See its REAME. - dhammacakka is a light set of customization. See its README.

## 2 Help

Use Control-q to quit a sequence or a command in progress. Use Alt+z to undo last command.

Prompts are usually triggered using a <Control> modifier and advertise an alternative Alt operating using the same key. Inverse is sometimes true : since <Control+s> invoking a prompt would be irritating, Control+s does not invoke a prompt. It directly saves buffer, while Alt+s is the “save prompt”.

### 3 NU for the power user

If you are not used to Emacs, reading this chapter is not necessary. But Emacs veteran should probably start here.

emacs-nu redefines many keys, however two points make learning curve shorter

- For any user, knowing CUA keybinds will make emacs-nu discoverable.
- For veteran Emacs user, two important sequences remain:

Mx is still there. This means, you can probably obtain what you want, just press Mx and you will not be lost. Also, C-h for help-prefix is still there.

Now, three things should probably be kept in mind while trying nu-mode

- To repeat a command, use Alt <Space>.
- To trigger a major mode sequence, start with Control <Space>. This will invoke vanilla emacs C-c. For example, into org-mode, use C-<SPC> C-n to navigate to next node. If you already defined you own keys starting with C-c, do not amend this definition. define-global-key : C-c <some key> Then press Control+Space then <some key>
- You should not rely on C-x, or at least no regularly. However to trigger x prefix, use C-M-<SPC>

## 4 Navigate

While arrows still work, Nu uses alt key to navigate. The thumb presses Alt key, while finger remains safe. Navigate up left right down using Alt and : I JKL

Additionally, use Alt u and alt o to move to previous/next word. U I O JKL

Use Alt\$ to go to end of line.

To reach a line, beginning of buffer, end of buffer, use Control+f then the appropriate key. Just read the prompt.

## 5 Selections and Deletions

Use Control-x to cut the current line. Use Control + paddle + j,l to delete backward, forward char Use Control + u to delete previous word

Use Alt+d to trigger a prompt. This will offer you to delete what you want.

The paddle allow to directly select (“mark”) text. While other ways are possible, using Alt-Shift-U, for example, will select previous word (or extend current selection).

An alternative to select text is to Alt+a to set a mark, then move to extend selection. An alternative is to press Control+a to invoke “a-” prompt, allowing to select “a-” word, “a-” sentence, and so on, or to set the mark, including to start a rectangular selection.



## 6 Cut Copy Paste

When no selection is active, use Control + x to cut current line, or a deletion command since deletions actually cut text.

Use Control + c to copy current line, or, while a selection is active, copy this selection.

Use Control + v to paste the current clipboard. Following Control + v will replace this paste with last clipboard item. However, if you need to paste several times, you can use Alt + v to invoke an advanced “Paste” prompt.

## 7 Undo or Redo

Use Alt+z to undo. Or, use Control+z to invoke undo-tree visualizer to play with discard changes in an advanced way.

## 8 Advanced Edition

Most advanced editon features rely on Control-r, which will invoke replace prompt, allowing you to replace-regexp, merge-lines, delete spaces, ...

Alt+y will copy to current line char under point (on the below line). Alt+e will copy to current line char above point (on the above line).

Control+g global prompt will also propose goal-column feature.

## 9 Files Buffers Windows

Use Control + s to save current file, Alt + s to invoke a prompt to rename it. Control+g “global” prompt will allow you to manipulate frames.  $\hat{A}^2$  will invoke buffers list.

Use Control+o to open a file, a window, a buffer, or use bookmarks,... Use Control+w to close this frame. Or Alt+w to make this frame the only visible one. Use Control+n to open a sracth buffer (blank untitled buffer).

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