

# Flymake

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## What is flymake?

Good place to start. flymake is a generic package that provides diagnostics in a buffer. its included in emacs by default and is a drop in replacement for the main diagnostic package we all use, flycheck.

## Ok... whats a diagnostic?

Now this may seem a little tedious but its worth going over. in short a Diagnostic is a piece of information tied to a part of your text. The main example of this is a syntax error. displayed through your linter. but it can be anything. From style guides, to spelling mistakes to your managers nagging encoded into a command line application.

## Why replace flycheck then?

Well... in reality if flycheck works then there can be little reason to switch. that being said some of the reasons to switch include

- Its built in That means there is less to install and it will be maintained for the foreseeable future.
- It composes nicely what I mean by that is that instead of reinventing the wheel and creating its own system of activation. Instead of specially registering modes to diagnostic checkers. you add your “flymake backends” (a function) to `flymake-diagnostic-functions`. If you want to make it mode
- It basically does not need to be configured For this point we shall channel our inner taco and learn to love the defaults. I kid but its basically true, for the most part this is my config
- Its built in
- It “composes” nicely
- It basically does not need to be configured

All of this should be pretty understandable. And for the most part that’s it. if you use lsp-mode it should all work pretty magically. and because diagnostics are pretty simple in there nature most people can do this without obstructing there workflow!

```
;; Activate ~flymake-mode~ by default
(add-hook! (prog-mode text-mode) #'flymake-mode)

;; Tell lsp-mode we /really/ want to use ~flymake~
(after! lsp-mode
 (setq lsp-diagnostics-provider :flymake))

;; put the indicators in the right (->) fringe
(after! flymake
 (setq flymake-fringe-indicator-position 'right-fringe))
```