

Emacs Cheat Sheet

Common Commands

when you see a special symbol such as '@' that indicates you need to press the SHIFT key and the key that represents that symbol. Example: C-@ means Ctrl-SHIFT-2

DEL	deletes character to left of cursor
C-d	deletes character to right of cursor
ESC DEL	deletes *word* to left of cursor
ESC d	deletes *word* to right of cursor
C-k	kills/deletes the entire line
C-y	"yank" pastes most recently deleted chunk of text (Doesn't work for single characters)
Esc y	Retrieve the next-last chunk of text
C-u	repeat the following command 4 times
C-_ /C-x u	"undo"
C-@	set a mark
C-w	delete everything from mark to current cursor position
C-x C-c	save and quit
C-x C-s	save
C-x C-w	save under a different name
C-x C-f	find a different file to edit
C-x C-r	find a different read-only file
C-x C-q	flip the buffer's status (from read-only to writable and vice versa). *
C-s	performs incremental forward search (press multiple times to keep searching or to wrap the search)
C-r	performs incremental backwards search from current position
C-g	exits the minibuffer
Esc %	performs a query and replace which works much like "find and replace" does in Word.
C-x 2	splits the screen into two windows vertically (across, 2 vertical windows)
C-x 3	splits the screen into two windows horizontally (up/down, 2 horizontal windows)
C-x o	move to the 'o'ther window (use C-x C-f to open a different file within a window)
C-x 0	delete window you are currently in
C-x 1	keep the window you are currently in, delete all others
Esc ;	creates a set of comment markers at the end of the current line
ESC x	auto-fill-mode
ESC x shell	spin up a new shell within Emacs**

** this does not change the permissions of the underlying file from which the buffer data is coming. But the buffer can be saved to a different file with C-x C-w*

*** this sub-shell is not capable of everything that the normal shell can do*