↖ Topic Index

Mode Line Control

Description	Keystroke	Function	Notes / Example description
Emacs Mode Line Last updated on:	Emacs mode line, shown at the bottom of each window provides information about the buffer, describing the content of the buffer, the major and minor modes used. The information shown depends on the content of Emacs **mode-line-format** variable. • Type: `C-h o mode-line-format <RET>` to open help on it. The **pel-pkg-for-modeline** customization group that contains the following pel-use user-options that install and activate the following: 📦 **delight** **pel-use-delight** Replace selected info by nicer ones as defined in **pel-delight-spec** user-option. 📦 **mlscroll** **pel-use-mscroll** Shows a scroll bar in windows modeline. Set it to ***use-from-start*** to activate at startup. 📦 **show-point-mode** **pel-use-show-point-mode** Shows point value (a single integer) in mode line when active. • Access this customization group with `<f11> M-d <f2>`. • When delight is used, PEL activates short lighters for some minor-modes. The following commands can be used to provides the activation of extra information shown on the mode line. 2026-02-08		
Open this PDF file. See also: **Σ Help/Info**	`<f11> M-d <f1>`	(**pel-help-pdf** &optional OPEN-WEB-PAGE)	Open the **Σ Mode Line** local PDF. If the prefix argument (like `C-u` or `M--`) is used, then it opens the remote GitHub hosted raw PDF instead. If the **pel-flip-help-pdf-arg** user-option is set it's the other way around.
Σ Customize PEL mode line support	`<f11> M-d <f2>`	(**pel-customize-pel** &optional OTHER-WINDOW)	Customize PEL mode line support • If OTHER-WINDOW is non-nil (use `C-u`), display in another window.
Σ Customize Emacs mode line	`<f11> M-d <f3>`	(**pel-customize-library** &optional OTHER-WINDOW)	Customize Emacs mode line support: display-time, mode-line, mlscroll • If OTHER-WINDOW is non-nil (use `C-u`), display in another window.
Toggle which-function-mode to display name of current function at point See also: • **Σ Help/Info** • **Σ Menus**	• `<f11> ? f` • `<f11> M-d f`	(**which-function-mode** &optional ARG)	Toggle mode line display of current function (Which Function mode). • With a prefix argument ARG, enable Which Function mode if ARG is positive, and disable it otherwise. • The **which-function-mode** is a global minor mode. When enabled, the current function name is continuously displayed in the mode line, in certain major modes. ⚠️ Detection of functions and variables depend on the imenu functionality. If you modify the content of a buffer, you need to force a menu rescan to get proper results. You can force a rescan with pel-imenu-rescan, bound to `<f11> <f10> r`.
	🎛️ Identify the major modes where you want this activated in the which-function-mode user-option with `M-x customize-option which-function-mode`. • With PEL you can use: • `<f11> ? <f3>` to access the which-func customization group. Note that it will provide access to the customization group even when the feature has not yet been loaded. • `<f11> <f2> o which-function-mode RET` to access the user-option directly.		
Toggle display of ace-window number on window mode line See also: **Σ Windows**	• `<f11> w #` • `<f11> M-d #`	(**ace-window-display-mode** &optional ARG)	Toggle the ace-window-display-mode, a minor mode that displays the ace window number of each window inside the left hand side of its mode line. 📦 Requires the **ace-window** external package. PEL activates it when the **pel-use-ace-window** user-option is turned on. Use `<f11> w <f2>` to access the customization group where you can turn it on.
Display Time on Mode Line 🎛️	• Emacs can display time, date, current system load and other information on the mode line as controlled by the **display-time** customization group. • Access it via the `<f11> M-d <f3>` key sequence. • If you want to display this information when Emacs starts, set the **pel-modeline-display-time** user-option on. You can also use the following command to toggle the display of time.		
Toggle time display on mode line See also: **Σ Time Tracking**	`<f11> M-d t`	(**pel-toggle-time-display**)	Toggle display of time on the mode line.
Display point value on Mode Line	The following command toggles the display of the current column on the mode line. ☝️ Note that the display of several mode line elements can be activated through the Emacs Menu accessible via the `<f10>` key.		
Toggle display of column number on mode line	`<f11> M-d c`	(**column-number-mode** &optional ARG)	Toggle column number display in the mode line (Column Number mode). • With a prefix argument ARG, enable Column Number mode if ARG is positive, and disable it otherwise.
Toggle display of point character integer on mode line	`<f11> M-d p`	(**show-point-mode** &optional ARG)	Toggles the display of point integer value on the mode line. • With a `C-u` prefix argument: turns the mode on. 📦 Requires the **show-point-mode** external package PEL activates it when the **pel-use-show-point-mode is set.**
Mode Line Scroll bar	📦 **mlscroll**, activated by **pel-use-mscroll, s**hows a scroll bar in windows modeline. Set it to ***use-from-start*** to activate at startup.		
Toggle mlscroll mode	`<f11> M-d s`	(**mlscroll-mode** &optional ARG)	Toggle the global minor mode for displaying an interactive scrollbar in the mode line.
Mode Line Lighters	The list of mode line lighters you are most likely to find when using Emacs with PEL are listed below. • PEL uses some short lighters made of non-ASCII symbols that may or may not be rendered properly on various environments. • These can be setup by customization and some may only work in terminal or graphics mode. Some of the lighters are shown here, with some replacements done when **pel-use-delight** is turned on:		
• 𓁹 • 𓆏	**undo-tree**		See: **Σ Undo/Redo/Repeat/Arg**
⊞	**pel-indent-with-tabs-mode**		Convert space-based indentation to tabs-based indentation. See **Σ Indentation** • May help working with files that use a small space based indentation width.
🎛️	**editorconfig-mode**		See EditorConfig
ε(1)	**pel-electric-pair-lighter**		See: **Org-Mode** **PEL - C** **PEL - C++** **PEL - D**
‡	**pel-tempo-mode**		See: • **Σ Inserting Text** **PEL - C** **PEL - C++** • **PEL - Emacs Lisp** **PEL - Erlang** **PEL - UNIX Shell** • **reStructuredText**
²	**superword-mode**		See **Σ Text Modes**
,	**subword-mode**		See **Σ Text Modes**
o^o	**glasses-mode**		See **Σ Text Modes**
Anzu	**anzu-mode**		See **Σ Search/Replace**
eldoc	**eldoc-mode**		See **PEL - Emacs Lisp**
Fill	**auto-fill-mode**		See **Σ Filling/Justification**
LY	**lispy-mode**		See **PEL - Lispy**
Ov	**overwrite-mode**		See **Σ Text Modes**
🌈	**rainbow-mode**		See **Σ Highlight**
rr	**rectangular-region-mode**		See **Σ Cursor** : (it's used in multiple cursor)

Description	Keystroke	Function	Notes / Example description
SP	smartparens-mode		See: Smartparens
SP/s	smartparens-strict-mode		
Vis	visible-mode		See Text Modes
WK	which-key-mode		See Help/Info
	command-log-mode		See Help/Info
• **Makefile.am** • **BSDmakefile** • **Imakefile** • **Makefile** • **Makeppfile** • **Nmake**	Major mode for various types of make files.		See: - Make