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ibuffer-mode

Operation	Keystroke	Function	Note
ibuffer Mode ○ Mark buffers • Mark for deletion • Operate on marked • kill marked • filters ○ groups • Navigate in groups • Sort list, Other, Help Last updated on:	Emacs ibuffer-mode list buffers in controllable, flexible way and provides selection, filtering, grouping commands. ☝ It is **extremely useful!** • PEL provides the following extensions when the corresponding **pel-use-** customizable user-option is turned on: 📦 ibuffer-vc ☑ **pel-use-ibuffer-vc** Allows creating groups based on version control. 📦 ibuffer-tramp ☑ **pel-use-ibuffer-tramp** Allows creating groups based on ⅀ **Tramp** node With PEL you can also identify minor modes automatically activated in ibuffer by identifying them in the **pel-ibuffer-activates-minor-modes** user-option. **See also:** • **Intro to ibuffer** A nice video presentation of ibuffer-mode. • ⅀ **Buffers** 2025-11-19		
Open this PDF file. See also: ⅀ **Help/Info**	`<f12> <f1>`	(**pel-help-pdf** &optional OPEN-WEB-PAGE)	Open this ⅀ **ibuffer-mode** 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.
⅀ **Customize PEL ibuffer Support**	`<f12> <f2>`	(**pel-customize-pel** &optional OTHER-WINDOW)	Customize PEL ibuffer support: open PEL buffer support specific group. • If OTHER-WINDOW is non-nil (use **C-u**), display in other window.
⅀ **Customize Emacs Ibuffer support**	`<f12> <f3>`	(**pel-customize-library** &optional OTHER-WINDOW)	Customize Emacs **ibuffer**, ibuffer-vc. When a prefix argument (like **C-u**) opens the buffer inside another window.
ibuffer Mode	Commands available in ibuffer window. WIth PEL, the **C-x C-b** key binding open the ibuffer window. PEL also provide extra filters and sorting commands.		
Toggle ibuffer auto-update mode	• `<f12> a` • `C-c C-a`	(**ibuffer-auto-mode** &optional ARG)	Toggle use of Ibuffer's auto-update facility (Ibuffer Auto mode). • When this mode is active, ibuffer automatically updates the buffer state when they change, otherwise (by default) the state needs to be actively refreshed by pressing **g** in the ibuffer window.
• **Mark buffers**	Inside the buffer-mode window, use the following commands to mark and un-mark buffer entries. **m** : Mark the buffer at point. **t** : Unmark all currently marked buffers, and mark all unmarked buffers. *** c** : Change the mark used on marked buffers. **u** : Unmark the buffer at point. **U** : Unmark **all** marked buffers. **DEL** : Unmark the previous buffer. **M-DEL** : Unmark buffers marked with MARK. *** M** : Mark buffers by major mode. *** u** : Mark all "unsaved" buffers. This means that the buffer is modified, and has an associated file. *** m** : Mark all modified buffers, regardless of whether they have an associated file. *** s** : Mark all buffers whose name begins and ends with '*'. *** e** : Mark all buffers which have an associated file, but that file doesn't currently exist. *** r** : Mark all read-only buffers. *** /** : Mark buffers in 'dired-mode'. *** h** : Mark buffers in 'help-mode', 'apropos-mode', etc. **.** : Mark buffers older than 'ibuffer-old-time'. **% n** : Mark buffers by their name, using a regexp. **% m** : Mark buffers by their major mode, using a regexp. **% f** : Mark buffers by their filename, using a regexp. **% g** : Mark buffers by their content, using a regexp. **% L** : Mark all locked buffers.		
• **Mark for deletion**	**d** : Mark the buffer at point for deletion.		
• **Operate on marked buffers**	Once buffers are marked, **S** : Save the marked buffers. **A** : View the marked buffers in the selected frame. **H** : View the marked buffers in another frame. **V** : Revert the marked buffers. **T** : Toggle read-only state of marked buffers. **L** : Toggle lock state of marked buffers. **M-s a C-s** : Do incremental search in the marked buffers. **M-s a C-M-s** : Isearch for regexp in the marked buffers. **r** : Replace by regexp in each of the marked buffers. **Q** : Query replace in each of the marked buffers. **I** : As above, with a regular expression. **P** : Print the marked buffers. **O** : List lines in all marked buffers which match a given regexp (like the function '**occur**'). **X** : Pipe the contents of the marked buffers to a shell command. **N** : Replace the contents of the marked buffers with the output of a shell command. **!** : Run a shell command with the buffer's file as an argument. **E** : Evaluate a form in each of the marked buffers. This is a very flexible command. For example, if you want to make all of the marked buffers read-only, try using (read-only-mode 1) as the input form. **W** : As above, but view each buffer while the form is evaluated.		
• **Kill/close marked buffer**	**D** : Kill the marked buffers. No impact on file (any associated file is not deleted). **x** : Kill all buffers marked for deletion. No impact on file (any associated file is not deleted).		
• **Hide marked buffers**	**k** : Hide the marked lines from the *Ibuffer* buffer, but don't kill the associated buffer. Use **g** to refresh and show them again.		
• **Refresh**	**g** : Regenerate the list of all buffers. Prefix arg means to toggle whether buffers that match 'ibuffer-maybe-show-predicates' should be displayed.		
• **Manage filters**	Use the following commands to filter the buffer entries according to one or several criteria. Use the commands below to filter the list.		
• **Filterering commands**	**/ RET** : Add a filter by any major mode. **/ m** : Add a filter by a major mode now in use. **/ M** : Add a filter by derived mode. **/ n** : Add a filter by buffer name. **/ c** : Add a filter by buffer content. **/ b** : Add a filter by basename. **/ f** : Add a filter by filename. **/ d** : Add a filter by directory name. **/ .** : Add a filter by file extension. **/ i** : Add a filter by modified buffers. **/ e** : Add a filter by an arbitrary Lisp predicate. **/ >** : Add a filter by buffer size. **/ <** : Add a filter by buffer size. **/ *** : Add a filter by special buffers. **/ v** : Add a filter by buffers visiting files.		
• **Manage filters**	Once the filters are created you can also combine them using the following commands. **/ s** : Save the current filters with a name. **/ r** : Switch to previously saved filters. **/ a** : Add saved filters to current filters. **/ &** : Replace the top two filters with their logical AND. **/ |** : Replace the top two filters with their logical OR. **/ p** : Remove the top filter. **/ !** : Invert the logical sense of the top filter. This can be applied to any filter. **/ M-d** : Break down the topmost filter. **/ /** : **Remove all filtering currently in effect.**		
Select filter by completion of filter description	`<f12> c`	(**ibuffer-filter-chosen-by-completion**)	Select and apply filter chosen by completion against available filters. • Indicates corresponding key sequences in echo area after filtering. • The completion matches against filter description text of filters in 'ibuffer-filtering-alist'.
Filter by directory name expression	`<f12> d`	(**ibuffer-filter-by-directory** QUALIFIER)	Limit current view to buffers with directory matching QUALIFIER. • For a buffer associated with file '/a/b/c.d', this matches against '/a/b'. For a buffer not associated with a file, this matches against the value of 'default-directory' in that buffer.

Operation	Keystroke	Function	Note
• **Filter Groups**	The ibuffer mode supports creating groups of entries. The groups can be based on the filters created by the commands above and given names. The **/ D** command creates a set of groups based on the directories of the files. The other commands provide ability to create specialized groups, saving them and deleted them.		
IBuffer Mode Filter Group commands	`/ D` : Group buffers by directory path names `/ g` : Create filter group from filters. `/ P` : Remove top filter group. `/ \` : Remove all active filter groups `/ S` : Save the current groups with a name. `/ R` : Restore previously saved groups. `/ X` : Delete previously saved groups.		
IBuffer Mode commands to move across Filter Groups	Use the following commands to navigate through the filter groups		
	`TAB` : Move to the next filter group. `M-n` : Move to the next filter group. `M-p` : Move to the previous filter group.		
• **Sort entries**	Use the following commands to sort the list of buffer entries		
	`,` : Rotate between the various sorting modes. `s i` : Reverse the current sorting order. `s a` : Sort the buffers lexicographically. `s f` : Sort the buffers by the file name. `s v` : Sort the buffers by last viewing time. `s s` : Sort the buffers by size. `s m` : Sort the buffers by major mode. `s p` : Sort the buffers by path name.		
• **Extra Filters**	The following extra group filtering commands are provides by external packages that PEL can active: 📦 **ibuffer-vc** allows creating groups based on version control PEL activates it when **pel-use-ibuffer-vc** is set to t. 📦 **ibuffer-tramp** allows creating groups based on ⅀ Tramp node PEL activates it when **pel-use-ibuffer-tramp** is set to t.		
Group by VC backend	`<f12> v`	(**ibuffer-vc-set-filter-groups-by-vc-root**)	Group all entries by VC back-end. • Requires **ibuffer-vc** activated by **pel-use-ibuffer-vc**
Group by ⅀ Tramp connection	`<f12> t`	(**ibuffer-tramp-set-filter-groups-by-tramp-connection**)	Group all entries by ⅀ **Tramp** connection. • Requires **ibuffer-tramp** activated by **pel-use-ibuffer-tramp**
• **Other commands**			
• **change list format**	`` ` `` : Change the ***current display format***. ☝ Use this to see the complete file name when the file name is long.		
• **Bury buffer**	`b` : Bury (not kill!) the buffer on this line.		
• **View Buffer**	`RET` : View the buffer on this line. `o` : As above, but in another window. `C-o` : As both above, but don't select the new window.		
• **Navigate**	`SPC` : Move point to the next line. `C-n` : Move point to the next line. `C-p` : Move point to the previous line.		
• **Diff buffer & file**	`=` : View the differences between this buffer and its associated file.		
• **Help**	`h` : Show emacs ibuffer help `?` : Show emacs ibuffer help `C-h m` : Show emacs ibuffer help `<f1> m` : Show emacs ibuffer help `<f12> <f1>` : Open this PEL PDF help		