

# Autosave / Backup

Operation	Keystroke	Function	Note
<a href="#">File Auto-Saving</a>	By default Emacs autosaves files. The autosaved files normally have a name that starts and ends with '#', unless there's code that changes that behaviour. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Buffers not visiting files can also be autosaved if that is requested explicitly (by turning the auto-save-mode for that buffer).</li><li>When a large portion of text is deleted from a buffer, its auto-save-mode is automatically disabled temporarily to help retain that deleted text in the auto-saved copy. It is re-activated when the buffer is saved in a file (with <b>C-x C-s</b>) or when activating auto-save-mode.</li></ul>		
<b>Toggle autosave of the current buffer</b>	M-x auto-save-mode	( <b>auto-save-mode</b> &optional ARG)	Toggle auto-saving in the current buffer (Auto Save mode). <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>With a prefix argument ARG, enable Auto Save mode if ARG is positive, and disable it otherwise.</li></ul>
<b>Toggle auto-saving directly to the file (instead of the normal auto-save file)</b>	M-x auto-save-visited-mode	( <b>auto-save-visited-mode</b> &optional ARG)	Toggle automatic saving to file-visiting buffers on or off. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>With a prefix argument ARG, enable regular saving of all buffers visiting a file if ARG is positive, and disable it otherwise.</li><li>Unlike 'auto-save-mode', this mode will auto-save buffer contents to the visited files directly and will also run all save-related hooks.</li></ul>
<b>Auto-save now all buffers that need it.</b>	M-x do-auto-save	( <b>do-auto-save</b> &optional NO-MESSAGE CURRENT-ONLY)	Auto-save all buffers that need it. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>This is all buffers that have auto-saving enabled and are changed since last auto-saved.</li><li>Auto-saving writes the buffer into a file so that your editing is not lost if the system crashes. This file is not the file you visited; that changes only when you save.</li></ul>
<a href="#">Recovering Data from auto-saves</a>	The following commands allow recovering data from auto-saved files.		
<b>Recover content of file from its auto-saved copy.</b>	M-x recover-file	( <b>recover-file</b> FILE)	Visit file FILE, but get contents from its last auto-save file.
<b>Recover a session after Emacs crash</b>	M-x recover-session	( <b>recover-session</b> )	Recover auto save files from a previous Emacs session. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>This command first displays a Direcd buffer showing you the previous sessions that you could recover from.</li><li>To choose one, move point to the proper line and then type <b>C-c C-c</b>. Then you'll be asked about a number of files to recover.</li></ul>
<a href="#">Backup Files</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>By default Emacs makes a single backup file for each file edited: a file with the name ending with '~'.</li><li>It's also possible to use numbered backups with our without automatic deletion of old ones.</li><li>All of this is controlled by <a href="#">backup user options</a>: version-control, kept-new-versions, kept-odd-versions, deleted-old-versions and dired-kept-versions</li><li>Emacs has a set of functions that deal with backups but no explicit commands.</li></ul>		
<a href="#">Compare file with backup</a>			
<b>Compare file with its backup</b> See also: <a href="#">Diff &amp; Merge</a>	<f11> d e f k	( <b>ediff-backup</b> FILE)	Compare a file with its backup. If there are several numerical backups, use the latest. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>If the file is itself a backup, then compare it with its original.</li></ul>

## Autosave/Backup – References

Topic & Link	Description
<a href="#">Emacs Manual - Auto-save</a>	
<a href="#">Emacs Manual - Backup Files</a>	
<a href="#">How do I reload a file in a buffer? @ StackExchange</a>	Discussion that describes several aspect of reloading a file.