












Frames

Operation	Keystroke	Function	Note
Emacs Frames See Quick intro Emacs Wiki Glossary Emacs Lisp Frames	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emacs calls frames what modern graphical Operating Systems call “windows”, or more specifically “OS windows”. Emacs supports multiple frames, both when Emacs works in graphical mode and in text terminal mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In terminal mode, only one frame is visible at any given time, the other frames are hidden. The current frame number is shown on the mode line. Using multiple frames is a powerful way to keep track of development contexts, with each frame having its own set of windows. 		
Last updated on:	2025-11-25		
Open this PDF file. See also: 🔗 Help/Info	<f11> F <f1>	(pel-help-pdf &optional OPEN-WEB-PAGE)	Open the 🔗 Frames 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 frame control	<f11> F <f2>	(pel-customize-pel &optional OTHER-WINDOW)	Customize PEL frame management support. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If OTHER-WINDOW is non-nil (use C-u), display in other window.
🔗 Customize Emacs frame control	<f11> F <f3>	(pel-customize-library &optional OTHER-WINDOW)	Customize Emacs frame management support.
Enter/Exit full screen	<f11> <f11>	(pel-toggle-frame-fullscreen)	Toggle frame fullscreen mode on/off in graphics mode.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Terminal mode, issue error to show how to use the OS keystrokes to toggle the fullscreen mode. For example it will tell you to use ⌘-C-f when Emacs is running inside a Terminal.app frame.  Unfortunately the information is only provided for macOS Terminal.app and iTerm.app.  Standard GNU Emacs normally binds <f11> to (toggle-frame-fullscreen). But PEL use <f11> as a prefix key, therefore it rebinds it.		
Set Frame Font	With Emacs running in graphics mode, you can change the font of all windows with the menu-set-font command.		
Change font of current Frame See also: 🔗 Faces/Fonts	<f11> F F	(menu-set-font)	Interactively select a font and make it the default on all frames. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set the default on both the existing and future frames in the current session. It is not persistent, so next time you start Emacs the default font is used.
Move to another graphical frame using cursors	The following commands move point to another graphical Emacs frame existing in the direction selected by the cursor key.  framemove  PEL installs and activates this when the pel-use-framemove user option is set to t . Also available in the Emacs Wiki framemove .  These four commands commands only work in graphics mode .		
Move to graphical frame above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <f11> S-<up> <Esc> S-<up> 	(fm-up-frame)	Move point to frame above current frame (if one exists and is located there).
Move to graphical frame below	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <f11> S-<down> <Esc> S-<down> 	(fm-down-frame)	Move point to frame below current frame (if one exists and is located there).
Move to graphical frame at right	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <f11> S-<right> <Esc> S-<right> 	(fm-right-frame)	Move point to frame at right of the current frame (if one exists and is located there).
Move to graphical frame at left	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <f11> S-<left> <Esc> S-<left> 	(fm-left-frame)	Move point to frame at left of the current frame (if one exists and is located there).
Manage Frames	Emacs frame operations work in both modes: graphics and text terminal. In graphics mode a new frame is creating a separate OS frame. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In text terminal mode a new frame is inside the same OS frame: it simply hides the other(s) existing frame(s). The mode line identifies the currently active frame number as “F1”, “F2”, etc... The windows numbers are all part of the space number-space. 		
Show frame count	<f11> F ?	(pel-show-frame-count)	Display the number of Emacs active frames in the mini-buffer.
Delete this frame See 🔗 Windows Hydra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> C-x 5 0 <f11> F 0 ⌘-w * <f7> M-F 	(delete-frame &optional FRAME FORCE)	Delete FRAME, permanently eliminating it from use. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FRAME must be a live frame and defaults to the selected one.
Delete all other frames	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> C-x 5 1 <f11> F 1 	(delete-other-frames &optional FRAME)	Delete all frames on FRAME’s terminal, except FRAME.
New Frame below See 🔗 Windows Hydra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> C-x 5 2 <f11> F 2 ⌘-n * <f7> M-f 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (make-frame-command) (make-frame &optional PARAMETERS) 	Make a new frame, on the same terminal as the selected frame. <ul style="list-style-type: none">  On macOS in graphics mode only: make-frame is called for ⌘-n, it has the same effect as make-frame-command.
Display buffer in other (next) frame	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> C-x 5 C-o <f11> F b 	(display-buffer-other-frame BUFFER)	Display a buffer preferably in another frame.
Tear window in frame See 🔗 Windows Hydra	C-x w ^ f <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <f11> w i f * <f7> F 	(tear-off-window CLICK)	Delete the selected window, and create a new frame displaying its buffer. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See: 🔗 Windows
Select another frame	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In text terminal mode: iterate through all frames, make the next frame visible in the terminal window and update the frame number shown on the mode line. In graphics mode: with no/nil argument (the default): iterate through visible frames, with ARG non nil: iterate through all frames (included iconified frames). 		
Select next frame • the frame with the next higher frame number	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <f11> F n ⌘-` * <f7> } 	(pel-next-frame ARG)	Make next frame visible. <ul style="list-style-type: none">  The ⌘-` key is a macOS command that moves to the next frame of the same application: no Emacs code is invoked but the effect is the same in graphics mode.
Select previous frame • the frame with the next lower frame number	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <f11> F p ⌘-- * <f7> { 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (pel-previous-frame ARG) (ns-prev-frame) 	Make previous frame visible. <ul style="list-style-type: none">  The ⌘-` key is a macOS command that moves to the next frame of the same application: no Emacs code is invoked but the effect is the same in graphics mode.
Move cursor to other (next) frame	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> C-x 5 o <f11> F o 	(other-frame ARG)	Activate the other frame. Numeric argument identifies frame in Z order.
Open in frame	The following commands open a buffer, file or 🔗 Dired buffer in a frame.		
Select buffer in other frame	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> C-x 5 0 <f11> F 0 	(switch-to-buffer-other-frame BUFFER-OR-NAME &optional NORECORD)	Prompt for buffer and open in other frame.
Find file in other (next) frame in read-only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> C-x 5 r <f11> F r 	(find-file-read-only-other-frame FILENAME &optional WILDCARDS)	Edit file read-only in other frame with name obtained via minibuffer.
Find file in other (next) frame	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> C-x 5 f C-x 5 C-f <f11> F f 	(find-file-other-frame FILENAME &optional WILDCARDS)	Switch to/open another file and show it in another frame.
Run Dired in other (next) frame	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> C-x 5 d <f11> F d 	(dired-other-frame DIRNAME &optional SWITCHES)	"Edit" a directory. Like ‘dired’ but makes a new frame. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See 🔗 Dired
macOS frame	The following commands are available under macOS for Emacs running in graphics mode only.		
Hide Emacs frame	⌘-h	(ns-do-hide-emacs)	 On macOS in graphics mode only: hide Emacs frame. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retrieve it via the ⌘-<tab> key.
Hide all other applications	⌘-H	(ns-do-hide-others)	 On macOS in graphics mode only: hide all other applications, except Emacs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retrieve them via the ⌘-<tab> key.
Iconify frame	⌘-m	(iconify-frame &optional FRAME)	 On macOS in graphics mode only: iconify the frame.