## File Management

Operation	Keystroke	Function	Note
File Management (See also: Dired and Customize)	Emacs provides a large set of commands to open files (Emacs documentation uses the term "finding" files for that), saving files searching for files or file content, displaying directory content, etc These are listed in this table.  • The directory editing (dired) commands are mainly listed in the ∑ Dired table.  • There are also several Emacs internal and external packages that provide useful commands. ☑ PEL supports several of them, and activates them via customize user option variables. They are listed below. Use Emacs customize system to modify their values to activate, deactivate and modify the behaviour of these packages. PEL provides the <f11> &lt;1&gt; f key binding to quickly gain access to the appropriate customize group where you can change their values. Once you have modified the values, save them and then either execute M-x pel-init or restart Emacs.</f11>		
Opening file	The following commands are available to open/visit files in Emacs buffers.  • For some of them the corresponding ido mode function is also shown.  • Note: Emacs uses the word "visiting" instead of "opening" files.  • The command used to 'visit' a file, find-file is Emacs default. It supports Emacs' basic tab completion. Packages that support other completion mechanisms can be installed and activated and then the command uses a different completion mechanism.  • © PEL customization system allows you to specify whether you want to use one or several other completion mechanisms. It also has a command to change the completion mechanism dynamically. You can change it without restarting Emacs or event re-executing pel-init. See the ∑ Customize table for more info.		
Open (visit) a file/directory	C-x C-f	(find-file FILENAME &optional WILDCARDS)	Prompt for the file or directory name to open. Open the selected file/directory in a buffer with the appropriate mode. For directory, the buffer opens in Dired-mode.
(See also: ∑ Mode - Dired)		• (ido-find-file)	This can be replaced by the ido-mode by the ido-find-file: it provides suggestions.  When ido mode is used, you can also:  • Type C-x f to change to original find-file  • Type C-j to accept the file/directory name verbatim without replacement or suggestion.  Note: it is also possible to change the read-only state of a buffer with C-x C-q. So you can open a file with C-x C-f and then change the buffer to read-only mode.  □ □ □ □ PEL supports several completion modes can all be activated and dynamically selected. See the □ Customize table for more info.
Open file using OS file- open dialog	<b>%-o</b>	(ns-open-file-using-panel)	6 On macOS in graphics mode only: open a file, select the file name via an OS File dialog.
Open another file in buffer	C-x C-v	(find-alternate-file FILENAME & optional WILDCARDS)     (ido-find-alternate-file)	Kills buffer and open the newly specified file in a new buffer same window. When ido-mode is used, the ido-find-alternate-file is used instead. Useful when just selected an empty file just selected by mistake.
Open file in other window	• C-x 4 f • <f11> f o</f11>	(find-file-other-window FILENAME &optional WILDCARDS)     (ido-find-file-other-window)	Edit file FILENAME, in another window.  Like C-x C-f, but creates a new window or reuses an existing one.
Open file in other frame	C-x 5 f	(find-file-other-frame FILENAME &optional WILDCARDS)     (ido-find-file-other-frame)	Edit file FILENAME, in another frame.  Like C-x C-f, but creates a new frame or reuses an existing one.
Open a file in read-only mode	C-x C-r	(find-file-read-only FILENAME & optional WILDCARDS)     (ido-find-file-read-only)	Edit file FILENAME but don't allow changes. Like C-x C-f, but marks buffer as read-only. Use C-x C-q to permit editing.
Open file in other window in read-only mode	• C-x 4 r • <f11> f 0</f11>	(find-file-read-only-other-window FILENAME &optional WILDCARDS)     (ido-find-file-read-only-other-window)	(find-file-read-only-other-window FILENAME &optional WILDCARDS) Edit file FILENAME in another window but don't allow changes. Like C-x 4 C-f, but marks buffer as read-only. Use C-x C-q to permit editing.
Open file or web-page whose name is at point  ★★  (See also ∑ Key-Chords, rst-mode)	• C-^ • <f11> f . • 6y</f11>	(pel-open-at-point &optional N)	<ul> <li>Open the file, library or the URL, named at point, with potential line &amp; column #s.</li> <li>If point is on a reStructuredText link in a rst-mode buffer, open the link target (that might be a local file or a URL on remote web site. In the latter case the page is opened in the systems' browser).</li> <li>If embedded space(s) are allowed in the filename, then point must be located at the first of the 2 delimiter characters. These delimiter character can be any of the following: "`'   () [] {&lt;&gt;`''" \ I] () ⟨⟩ ⟨⟩ ⟨⟩ [] [] ⟨"" ↔ ♥0 (] ⟩ .</li> <li>In the above list, the first 12 characters are ASCII characters, the remainders are Unicode characters: '''" \ I] () ⟨⟩ ⟨⟩ ⟨⟩ [] [] ⟨"" ↔ ♥0 (] ⟩ .</li> <li>Tab and newline are also delimiter characters.</li> <li>If embedded space in the file name is not allowed, then the file name must also be enclosed in the above delimiters, the space acts as an extra delimiter, and point can be positioned anywhere between the delimiters.</li> <li>If the string identifies a URL, the function opens the page in the default browser.</li> <li>Prompts for incomplete file names, allowing editing the find file (with completion), search for libraries files (type 1) according to current file type.</li> <li>Currently only supports Emacs Lisp files. Planning to support other programming languages with and without project management packages.</li> <li>Without argument:</li> <li>If file is already opened in a window, move point to that window and to the line column coordinates if specified following the file name at point.</li> <li>If no window holds that file, select the target window based on the number of editable windows in frame: if 1, split that window and use the new window, if 2: use the other window, if 3 or more, use the current window.</li> <li>N is 1.3,7or above (excluding 9): select the target window based on the number of editable windows in frame: if 1, split that window and use the new window, if 3 or more, use the current window.</li> <li>N is 10: open the URL at point in</li></ul>

Operation	Keystroke	Function	Note
Open filename at point in a	• <f11> f /</f11>	(pel-browse-filename-at-point)	Open the file name at point inside the system's browser.
browser (See also ∑ Key-Chords, ∑	• <u>6u</u>		<ul> <li>If point is at a directory name, open the systems application that browses directories (eg. macOS Finder, Windows Explorer).</li> </ul>
Web)			This is the same as using pel-open-at-point with the argument N set to 9. It is easier to type
			and PEL assigns its own key-chord for it.
Open URL at point in a browser	• <f11> f M-/ • 7u</f11>	( <b>browse-url-at-point</b> & optional ARG)	Ask a WWW browser to load the URL at or before point.  • Variable 'browse-url-browser-function' says which browser to use.
(See also ∑ Key-Chords, ∑	_		<ul> <li>Optional prefix argument ARG non-nil inverts the value of the option 'browse-url-new- window-flag'.</li> </ul>
Web)			FEL provides the <f11> <f1> M-g u key sequence to open the browse-url group that</f1></f11>
			contains relevant the user options.
Activating URLs	active use C-c RET		g-mode that turn URLs found in the current buffer into clickable buttons. Once the mode is If the URL is an email address a buffer to write an email to that address opens. If the URL is an en the address.
Toggle goto-addr-mode	<f11> f u</f11>	(goto-address-mode &optional ARG)	Minor mode to buttonize URLs and e-mail addresses in the current buffer. With a prefix argument ARG, enable the mode if ARG is positive, and disable it otherwise.
Toggle goto-addr-prog- mode	<f11> f U</f11>	(goto-address-prog-mode &optional ARG)	Like 'goto-address-mode', but only for comments and strings.
Open the URL (email or web page)	C-c RET	(goto-address-at-point &optional EVENT)	Send to the e-mail address or load the URL at point.  • Send mail to address at point:
web page,		LVLIVI)	Find e-mail address around or before point. Then search backwards to beginning of line
			for the start of an e-mail address.  If no email address is found there, then load the URL at or before point.
ffap commands			The ffap command is similar to pel-find-file-at-point-in-window but does not support line and
			mmand arguments and is not designed to support multiple programming languages. It does eplace the behaviour of standard file management command bindings such as <b>C-x C-f</b> .
	I — '''		e pel-use-ffap user option is set to either t or to ffap-bindings. In both cases these activate the
	key bindings shown	below.	ilso activates the standard ffap bindings which take over the behaviour of the main file finding
	and dired comma	nds. This means that Ido, Ivy or Helr	n are no longer available for these commands.
Find 21, APL		only set to t then the standard ffap bi	
Find file/URL at point	<f11> f a p</f11>	(ffap &optional FILENAME)	Find FILENAME, guessing a default from text around point.  • If 'ffap-url-regexp' is not nil, the FILENAME may also be an URL.
			<ul> <li>With a prefix, this command behaves exactly like 'ffap-file-finder'.</li> <li>If 'ffap-require-prefix' is set, the prefix meaning is reversed.</li> </ul>
			See also the variables 'ffap-dired-wildcards', 'ffap-newfile-prompt', 'ffap-url-unwrap-local',
Final Cla /UDL at a sint word		(44	'ffap-url-unwrap-remote', and the functions ffap-file-at-point' and 'ffap-url-at-point'.
Find file/URL at point - read only		(ffap-read-only)	Like 'ffap', but mark buffer as read-only.
Find another file/URL at point in window Find file/URL in other	<f11> f a v</f11>	(ffap-alternate-file)	Like 'ffap' and 'find-alternate-file': kills current buffer and open new file in the same window.
window	<f11> f a w</f11>	(ffap-other-window)	Like 'ffap', but put buffer in another window.
Find file/URL in other frame		(ffap-other-frame)	Like 'ffap', but put buffer in another frame.
Find file/URL in other window - read only	<f11> f a W</f11>	(ffap-read-only-other-window)	Like 'ffap', but put buffer in another window and mark as read-only.
Find file/URL in other frame - read only	<f11> f a F</f11>	(ffap-read-only-other-frame)	Like 'ffap', but put buffer in another frame and mark as read-only.
Start Dired with file at point	<f11> f a d</f11>	(dired-at-point &optional FILENAME)	Start Dired, defaulting to file at point. See 'ffap'.
Start Dired with file at point in other window	<f11> f a D</f11>	(ffap-dired-other-window)	Like 'dired-at-point', but put buffer in another window.
Start Dired with file at point in other frame	<f11> f a M-d</f11>	(ffap-dired-other-frame)	Like 'dired-at-point', but put buffer in another frame.
List directory of file at point	<f11> f a l</f11>	(ffap-list-directory)	Like 'dired-at-point' and 'list-directory'.
Open a menu of all files,	<f11> f a m</f11>	(ffap-menu &optional RESCAN)	Put up a menu of files and URLs mentioned in this buffer.
URL in current buffer.			<ul> <li>Then set mark, jump to choice, and try to fetch it. The menu is cached in 'ffap-menu-alist', and rebuilt by 'ffap-menu-rescan'.</li> </ul>
			<ul> <li>The optional RESCAN argument (a prefix, interactively) forces a rebuild. Searches with 'ffap-menu-regexp'.</li> </ul>
Insert text of another file at point	The following comm	ands can be used to insert text from	o other files at point in the current buffer.
Insert file at point	• C-x i • <f11> f i</f11>	(insert-file FILENAME)     (ido-insert-file)	Insert contents of file FILENAME into buffer after point.  • Set mark after the inserted text.
Insert file literally at point	<f11> f I</f11>	(insert-file-literally FILENAME)	Insert contents of file FILENAME into buffer after point with no conversion.  • Set mark after the inserted text.
Write text into	The following comm	ands can be used to write text selec	ted from current buffer into specified file.
specified file			
Write region text to file	<f11> f w</f11>	(write-region START END FILENAME &optional APPEND VISIT LOCKNAME MUSTBENEW)	Write current region into specified file.  Prompts for the specified file.
Append region text to file	<f11> f W</f11>	(append-to-file START END	Append the contents of the region to the end of file FILENAME.
Set file mode	<f11> f m</f11>	FILENAME) (set-file-modes FILENAME	Prompts for the specified file.  Set mode bits of file named FILENAME to MODE (an integer).
		MODE)	<ul> <li>Only the 12 low bits of MODE are used.</li> <li>Prompts for file name and then for chmod-like file mode value.</li> </ul>

Operation	Keystroke	Function	Note
Reverting Files	If you want to use     query variable to	Emacs to monitor the content of a fi a list of regular expressions describing	refresh the Emacs buffer visiting that file, you need to "revert" the file.  lle that is continuously modified by an external process (like a log file) set the <i>revert-without</i> - ng the field it'll apply to.  rent buffer or globally and restart its timer.
Revert a buffer  (See also: ∑ Diff & Merge)	• <f11> f r f • %%-u</f11>	(revert-buffer &optional IGNORE- AUTO NOCONFIRM PRESERVE- MODES)	Replace current buffer text with the text of the visited file on disk.  • This undoes all changes since the file was visited or saved.  • With a prefix argument, offer to revert from latest auto-save file, if that is more recent than the visited file.  • This is also the command to use to reload a file that was modified on the file system.  Solve You can use ediff-current-file to see the difference between the buffer and its disk file.  PEL binding for this is <f11> e b f.</f11>
Toggle auto-revert mode	<f11> f r a</f11>	(auto-revert-mode &optional ARG)	Toggle reverting buffer when the file changes (Auto-Revert Mode). With a prefix argument ARG, enable Auto-Revert Mode if ARG is positive, and disable it otherwise.  • Auto-Revert Mode is a minor mode that affects only the current buffer. When enabled, it reverts the buffer when the file on disk changes.  • When a buffer is reverted, a message is generated. This can be suppressed by setting 'auto-revert-verbose' to nil.
Toggle auto-revert tail mode	<f11> f r t</f11>	(auto-revert-tail-mode &optional ARG)	<ul> <li>Toggle reverting tail of buffer when the file grows.</li> <li>With a prefix argument ARG, enable Auto-Revert Tail Mode if ARG is positive, and disable it otherwise.</li> <li>When Auto-Revert Tail Mode is enabled, the tail of the file is constantly followed, as with the shell command 'tail-f'. This means that whenever the file grows on disk (presumably because some background process is appending to it from time to time), this is reflected in the current buffer.</li> <li>You can edit the buffer and turn this mode off and on again as you please. But make sure the background process has stopped writing before you save the file!</li> </ul>
Cancel/restart auto-revert timer	<f11> f r SPC</f11>	(pel-auto-revert-set-timer)	Restart or cancel the timer used by Auto-Revert Mode.  If such a timer is active, cancel it.  Start a new timer if Global Auto-Revert Mode is active or if Auto-Revert Mode is active in some buffer.  Restarting the timer ensures that Auto-Revert Mode will use an up-to-date value of 'auto-revert-interval' (which is normally 5 seconds by default).  Pel-auto-revert-set-timer is a thin wrapper over auto-revert-set-timer that displays a warning if executed when the buffer is not already in auto-revert-mode. It also displays the value of auto-revert-interval when auto-revert-set-timer is executed.
Saving Files	Use the following co	mmands to save the content of a bu	ffer to a filesystem file.
Save file to disk	• C-x C-s • %%-s	(save-buffer &optional ARG)	Save current buffer to associated file. By default, it makes the previous version into a backup file if previously requested or if this is the first save.  • With C-u: marks this version to become a backup when the next save is done  • With C-u C-u: makes the previous version into a backup file  • With C-u C-u: marks this version to become a backup when the next save is done, and makes the previous version into a backup file.  • With prefix 0: never make the previous version into a backup file.  • On macOS in graphics mode only: %-s brings a OS file-save dialog.
Save all/some files	C-x s	(save-some-buffers &optional ARG PRED)	Prompt for files that are modified. Options:  • y : save  • n : don't save  • C-r : look at the buffer in question  • d : view differences with diff-buffer-with-file
Write buffer to specified file	C-x C-w	(write-file FILENAME &optional CONFIRM)     (ido-write-file)	Similar to "Save-As": prompt for the filename.  • Can also be yanked in the mini buffer, use <b>M-n</b> to edit it.  Use that command to rename the file.
Changed current buffer changed state	M	(not-modified &optional ARG)	Mark current buffer as unmodified, not needing to be saved.  • With <b>C</b> - <b>u</b> prefix ARG, mark buffer as modified, so <b>C</b> - <b>x C</b> - <b>s</b> will save.
View Directory Tree with NeoTree	_	ernal package provides a Vim-NerdTr vhen <b>pel-use-neotree</b> is set to <b>t</b> .	ree like tree-view of a directory with expansion/collapse.
View directory tree with NeoTree	<f11> N</f11>	(neotree-toggle)	Toggle show the NeoTree window.  This requires the NeoTree external package.  PEL activates it when pel-use-neotree is set to t.  In the NeoTree buffer the following keys are available:  n next line  p previous line.  SPC or RET or TAB: Open current item if it is a file.  Fold/Unfold current item if it is a directory.  U Go up a directory  g Refresh  A Maximize/Minimize the NeoTree Window  I Toggle display hidden files  O Recursively open a directory  C−c C−n Create a file or create a directory if filename ends with a '/'  C−c C−d Delete a file or a directory.  C−c C−c Change the root directory.  C−c C−c Change the root directory.  C−c C−p Copy a file or a directory.
View Directory Tree with ZTree	PEL activates it v PEL driven custo Use <f11> <f modify="" of="" one="" pel-ztree-dir-n="" pel-ztree-show<="" td="" the=""><td>when pel-use-ztree is set to t.  Indication:  1&gt; f to quickly access the custom e following PEL provided customization eve-focus: set to t to move foculter-list: add a list of regexp.  For example, to ignored to display filtered-files: set to t to display filtered-files.</td><td></td></f></f11>	when pel-use-ztree is set to t.  Indication:  1> f to quickly access the custom e following PEL provided customization eve-focus: set to t to move foculter-list: add a list of regexp.  For example, to ignored to display filtered-files: set to t to display filtered-files.	

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View directory as tree with ztree-dir	<f11> z</f11>	(ztree-dir PATH)	Open an interactive buffer with the directory tree of the PATH given.  This requires the <u>ztree external package</u> .  PEL activates it when <u>pel-use-ztree</u> is set to t.  In the Ztree Dir buffer the following keys are available:  H: toggle display of filtered files.  >: narrow/display directory on current line  <: widen/display parent directory  d: Open Dired at point.
			<ul> <li>x: Toggle expand/collapse of all nodes of the subtree.</li> <li>Luse x with care! On large directory trees it takes a long time. I have see Emacs hang when typing x again during that time.</li> </ul>
Open <u>Dired</u> (Directory Editor)			fer in Dired mode, that looks like a ls -l output, which allows several operations. If you specify a an also use the following commands to open buffer in Dired mode.
Open a directory editor (See also: ∑ Mode - Dired)	• C-x d • #-D	(dired DIRNAME &optional SWITCHES)	Opens a Dired-mode buffer on the specified directory. Prompt for the directory name.  PEL activates ido when the <b>pel-use-ido-mode</b> customize variable is set to <b>t</b> .
Run Dired in other (next) window	C-x 4 d	(dired-other-window)	Opens a Dired-mode buffer on the specified directory inside another window. Prompt for the directory name.
List Directory	C-x C-d	(list-directory DIRNAME &optional VERBOSE)	Display a list of files in or matching DIRNAME, a la 'ls'. DIRNAME is globbed by the shell if necessary. Prefix arg (C-u) means supply -I switch to 'ls'.
Searching/Finding Files		ands can be used to search for file best #6: searching and finding files.	y name or content.
Run grep via find (See also ∑ grep)	• <f11> f g • <f11> g f</f11></f11>	(find-grep COMMAND-ARGS)	Run grep via find, with user-specified args COMMAND-ARGS.  • Collect output in a buffer.  • While find runs asynchronously, you can use the C-x ` command to find the text that grep hits refer to.
Coayah fay fila wikh lagata		4 OF A DOLL OT DING	This command uses a special history list for its arguments, so you can easily repeat a find command.  Proved to a second at the second control of the
Search for file with locate	<f11> f L</f11>	(locate SEARCH-STRING &optional FILTER ARG)	Prompt for a search pattern and search for filenames using the system locate command line utility through the sell to search a database of all pathnames that match the specified search pattern. The database is recomputed periodically.  • The search result is shown in a '*Locate*' buffer.  • With prefix arg ARG, prompt for the exact shell command to run instead. This way you can specify options to the locate command line utility.  ■ Use man to get more information on locate ( <f11> x m locate)</f11>
Search for files with 'find' and open Dired buffer	<f11> f d</f11>	(find-dired DIR ARGS)	Prompts for the root to search from, and a <b>find</b> command to search for files with the Unix find.  Specify the arguments for the <u>find command</u> . For example, to perform a case insensitive search for all .h files: -iname "*\h" for all .h files.  Opens a Dired-mode buffer and show the files found in there.
Search directory for files and open Dired buffer for those	<f11> f n</f11>	(find-name-dired DIR PATTERN)	Search DIR recursively for files matching the globbing pattern PATTERN, and run Dired on those files.  PATTERN is a shell wildcard (not an Emacs regexp) and need not be quoted.  The default command run (after changing into DIR) is:  findname 'PATTERN' -Is
Find files in a directory and open Dired output	<f11> f h</f11>	(find-grep-dired DIR REGEXP)	Find files in DIR that contain matches for REGEXP and start Dired on output. The command run (after changing into DIR) is:  find . \( \) -type f -exec 'grep-program' 'find-grep-options' -e REGEXP \} \; \) -ls
			where the first string in the value of the variable 'find-ls-option' specifies what to use in place of "-ls" as the final argument.
Find Emacs Lisp files in directory tree	<f11> f 1</f11>	(find-lisp-find-dired DIR REGEXP)	Find Emacs Lisp files in DIR, matching REGEXP. Open *Find Lisp Dired* buffer on output.
Automatic File Time Stamp	This can either be do (add-hook	one via Emacs customization system 'before-save-hook 'time-st	
	<ul><li>Time-stamp:</li><li>Time-stamp:</li></ul>		their first 8 lines, a line that looks like one of the following:
	The format of the time stamp is controlled by several variables:  • time-stamp-format specifies the format of the time stamp. Something like "%:y-%02m-%02d %02H:%02M:%02S %u" to specify the date and to in ISO format, with the user login's name.  • time-stamp-time-zone specifies the time zone selection:  • nil: Emacs local time  • t: Universal time  • wall : system wall clock time  • TZ : controlled by a TZ environment variable		
	These variables can be set in your init file or via the Emacs customization system.  To be automatically updated, the time-stamp string must be placed within the first 8 lines of the file.  To insert a non-updatable time stamp, the PEL package provides a set of text insert commands which include inserting a time stamp. See the Inserting Text table for the appropriate commands.		
Update file time stamp	<f11> f t</f11>	(time-stamp)	Force update the time stamp string(s) in the current buffer.
(See Also: ∑ Inserting Text)	1117 I E	(unic-stamp)	The time stamp is updated if the one of the following strings is found in the first 8 lines of the file:  • Time-stamp: <> • Time-stamp: " "  • If you want time stamps updated automatically, write the following inside your init.el file:  (add-hook 'before-save-hook 'time-stamp)
Toggle time stamp		(time-stamp-toggle-active	Toggle 'time-stamp-active', setting whether <f11> f t updates a buffer.</f11>
automatic update		&optional ARG)	With ARG, turn time stamping on if and only if arg is positive.

Operation	Keystroke	Function	Note
Inserting & Automatically Updating Copyrights	Emacs has built-in support for insertion and update of copyright notices inside files.  • Two commands, shown below, are provided to manually insert or update the file's copyright notice.  • The copyright notice can be automatically updated by adding the copyright-update function to the list of before-save-hook variable with the following code:  (add-hook 'before-save-hook 'copyright-update)  • To be automatically updated, the copyright notice must be placed within an area at the beginning of the file specified by the value of the copyright-limit variable, normally defined as the first 2000 characters. This variable is customizable.		
Insert copyright notice at point  (See Also: ∑ Inserting Text)	<f11> i C</f11>	(copyright &optional STR ARG)	Insert a copyright by \$ORGANIZATION notice at cursor.  • If the ORGANIZATION environment variable is not available, Emacs prompts for it.
Update file's copyright notice		(copyright-update &optional ARG INTERACTIVEP)	Update copyright notice to indicate the current year.  • With prefix ARG, replace the years in the notice rather than adding the current year after them. If necessary, and 'copyright-current-gpl-version' is set, any copying permissions following the copyright are updated as well.  • If non-nil, INTERACTIVEP tells the function to behave as when it's called interactively.  ⚠ Even when used interactively copyright-update does not warn if there is no copyright in the current buffer to update. It does not create a missing notice.  ■ If you want to be prompted automatically to update an existing but out-of-date copyright notice, write the following inside your init.el file: (add-hook 'before-save-hook 'copyright-update)
File Lock Protection	Emacs protects against multiple process modifying the same file with a lock. If you attempt to edit the buffer of a locked file, Emacs will prompt. You can steal the lock (with 's'), proceed ('p') to edit the file anyway or quit ('q').		

## File Management — References

Topic & Link	Description
Emacs Display - Mode Line	Read first. Describes what the Emacs mode line displays.
GNU Emacs Manual - File Handling	Describes how to open and deal with files and directories in Emacs.
GNU EMACS Manual - Interactive Do	Describes the ido-mode, a nice addition that helps with completing file names at prompts.
Display path of file in status bar	In graphics mode, display the buffer name and the full path file in parenthesis inside the frame title bar.
How do I rename an open file in Emacs?	