

Registers

Description	Keystroke	Function	Note
Emacs Registers	The Emacs manual states: “Emacs registers are compartments where you can save text, rectangles, positions, and other things for later use.” Aside from the native Emacs commands, the PEL package adds a set of convenience functions. ⚠ By default, Emacs does not save register content on exit; this information does not persist across Emacs sessions. However, there are several packages that implement project management that store/restore the registers (such as desktop.el) Register names: <ul style="list-style-type: none">The registers (identified as <code><reg></code> in the table below) are identified by single character name. Even control codes.⚠ Restriction: do not use ‘?’ (as ‘?’ is a prefix to identify characters in Elisp) nor Esc nor C-g for register name. Register Commands: <ul style="list-style-type: none">All <f11> r commands (pel- functions) check if the assignment to a register is attempting to use a register that already contain something, and then prompt if so. The C-x r commands (native Emacs commands) do not provide this type of protection.		
Open this PDF file. See also: 🔗 Help/Info	<f11> r <f1>	(pel-help-pdf &optional OPEN-WEB-PAGE)	Open the local copy of the 🔗 Registers PDF file unless a command prefix (like C-u) was used. In that case it opens the Github-hosted file instead.
Display register content			
View Register content	<f11> r v <reg>	(view-register REGISTER)	Opens a small temporary window showing what the specified register holds.
List all Registers	<f11> r l	(list-registers)	Opens a window that lists all register names and their content
Record data in register: point, keyboard-macro, window, frame	Once information related to point, keyboard-macro, window or frame is recorded into a register, use the <f11> r j command to restore it.		
Copy point position in register <reg>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">C-x r SPC <reg><f11> r p <reg>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(point-to-register REGISTER &optional ARG)(pel-point-to-register REGISTER &optional ARG)	Record the position of point and the current buffer in register r. With prefix argument store frame configuration.
Save keyboard macro in register <reg>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">C-x C-k x <reg><f11> r k <reg>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(kmacro-to-register REGISTER)(pel-kmacro-to-register REGISTER)	
Save Window layout in register <reg>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">C-x r w <reg><f11> r w <reg>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(window-configuration-to-register REGISTER)(pel-window-configuration-to-register REGISTER)	See Preserve window layout in Emacs @ StackOverflow .
“Jump” to register<reg>to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">move to pointexecute keyboard-macrorestore window layoutrestore frame layout	<ul style="list-style-type: none">C-x r j <reg><f11> r j <reg>	(jump-to-register REGISTER &optional DELETE)	Used to restore position, windows and frames (and execution keyboard-macros). <ul style="list-style-type: none">When restoring frames, any frame not included in the configuration become invisible.To delete these frames use: C-u C-x r j R
Record data in register: filename, number, rectangle, text	Once information relate to a file name, a number, a rectangle or text is recorded into a register, use the <f11> r i command to restore that data.		
Store the state of all frames and their windows in register <reg>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">C-x r f <reg><f11> r f <reg>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(frameset-to-register REGISTER)(pel-frameset-to-register REGISTER)	Store the state (position and sizes) of all frames and all their windows in register.
Store file name in register <reg>	<f11> r F <reg>	(pel-filename-to-register REGISTER)	Store the file name (with full path) of the file edited in current buffer in register.
Store NUMBER into register <reg>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">C-x r n <reg><f11> r n <reg>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(number-to-register NUMBER REGISTER)(pel-number-to-register NUMBER REGISTER)	Use an argument to the command to specify the number value.
Store 0 into Register <reg>			If no argument specified the number 0 is stored in the register. To specify another value enter it as a numeric argument.
Increment value stored in register<reg>by NUMBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none">C-x r + <reg><f11> r + <reg>	(increment-register PREFIX REGISTER)	If no argument, increment by 1. To increment by a larger amount, specify the number via a numeric argument. For example, to increment register a by 35, use: M-3 M-5 <f11> r + a
Copy region rectangle into register <reg>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">C-x r r <reg><f11> r r <reg>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(copy-rectangle-to-register REGISTER START END &optional DELETE-FLAG)(pel-copy-rectangle-to-register REGISTER START END &optional DELETE-FLAG)	If a prefix (C-u) argument is used, delete the rectangle from buffer.
Copy region text in register <reg>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">C-x r s <reg><f11> r t <reg>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(copy-to-register REGISTER START END &optional DELETE-FLAG REGION)(pel-copy-to-register REGISTER START END &optional DELETE-FLAG REGION)	If a prefix (C-u) argument is used, delete the text from buffer.
Prepend region text to text in register <reg>	<f11> r , <reg>	(prepend-to-register REGISTER START END &optional DELETE-FLAG)	F11 Mnemonic: the , key is on the same key as < (which points toward the end of text).
Append region text to text in register <reg>	<f11> r . <reg>	(append-to-register REGISTER START END &optional DELETE-FLAG)	F11 Mnemonic: the . key is on the same key as > (which points toward the end of text).
Insert register data at point: <ul style="list-style-type: none">filenamenumberrectangletext	<ul style="list-style-type: none">C-x r i <reg><f11> r i <reg>	(insert-register REGISTER &optional ARG)	Normally it leaves point after the inserted text and the mark before. With a numeric argument it puts the point before the text and the mark after.

Registers — References

Topic & Link	Description
GNU Emacs - Registers	
Register names	Single characters. Control and escape sequences can be used.
Stack Overflow - Preserve Window layout	Describes a set of packages that can also be used. Registers seems to be the best way to store named layouts though.