File Management

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| <u>Operation</u> | <u>Keystroke</u> | Function | <u>Note</u> |
| File Management See also: • <u>S Dired</u> • <u>S Customize</u> | 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 Directory listed to the Directory editing (dired) commands are mainly listed in the Directory editing (dired) commands are mainly listed in the Directory editing (dired) commands. PEL supports several of them, listed below. • Use Emacs customize system to modify their values to activate and modify the behaviour of these packages. • PEL <f11> f key prefix followed by either <f2> to access PEL activation group and <f3> to access the external package customization groups. • Once you have modified the relevant user-option values, apply or save them and then either execute M-x pel-init or restart Emacs. PEL provides integration with the following Emacs built-in libraries or functionalities: • Library ffap diactivated by pel-use-ffap to provide several commands to open file at point. • Library recentf activated by pel-use-recentf to list files recently opened. • Automatic file time stamp update on file save activated by pel-update-time-stamp.</f3></f2></f11> | | |
| • <u>》Key-Chords</u> | Automatic update of copyright notice year on file save activated by pel-update-copyright. It also provides integration with the following external packages when the corresponding PEL user-option is activated: key-chord activated by pel-use-key-chord, provides convenient key-chords for some commands. rfc-mode activated by pel-use-rfc-mode, provides ability to download and browse lETF RFC documents easily (see RFC editor). ivy/counsel activated by pel-use-counsel provides completion for some file commands. PEL supports more. See Completion/Ing NeoTree activated by pel-use-neotree provides an alternative to Direct to navigate a file directory. | | |
| Open this PDF file. See also: <u>∑ Help/Info</u> | <pre> ztree <f11> f <f1> 1</f1></f11></pre> | (pel-help-pdf &optional OPEN-WEB-PAGE) | e an other alternative to <u>Dired</u> to navigate a file directory. Open the <u>File-mngt</u> 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 |
| © Customize PEL File/ | <f11> f <f2> 1</f2></f11> | (pel-customize-pel &optional OTHER-WINDOW) | way around. Customize PEL support for file management. • If OTHER-WINDOW is non-nil (use C-u), display in other window. |
| Directory Management Customize Emacs file management support | <f11> f <f3></f3></f11> | (pel-customize-library &optional OTHER-WINDOW) | Customize Emacs support for file management. Includes the following: files, recentf, popup-switcher |
| Customize Emacs support for file revert | <f11> f r <f3></f3></f11> | (pel-customize-library &optional OTHER-WINDOW) | Customize Emacs support for file automatic revert management. |
| Customize ffap (find file at point) | <f11> f a <f3></f3></f11> | (pel-customize-library &optional OTHER-WINDOW) | Customize Emacs support for management of ffap (find file at point). |
| Open application | The following command | ds open OS level applications | |
| Open currently file visited in current buffer with the default OS application. | <f11> f F (pel-open-in-os-app & optional FNAME)</f11> | | Open the file with the OS-registered application. See also: ▼ Dired |
| Opening file | The following commands are available to open/visit files in Emacs buffers. Note: Emacs uses the word "visiting" instead of "opening" files. • For some of them the corresponding ido mode function is also shown. • 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 S Completion/Input and S Customize tables for more info. | | |
| File Lock | | | the same file with a lock. If you attempt to edit the buffer of a locked file, or save a buffer of a locked lock (with 's'), 2) proceed ('p') to edit the file anyway or 3) quit ('q'). |
| Open file-open dialog | %−o | (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 (visit) a file/ directory See also: | • <f11> f f • <m-f11> M-f M-f</m-f11></f11> | (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. • With PEL, the <f11> f f and <m-f11> M-f M-f key bindings are always available, regardless of what completion mechanism is in use. It can be used as a fallback when testing</m-f11></f11> |
| S Completion/Input S Dired Customize | C-x C-f | | various completion mechanism is in use. It can be used as a rainback when testing various completion packages. I have seen some of them fail and break Ido. Note that <m-f12> M-f M-f is also available in some major modes to open files in a way that takes the major mode into account, like providing a list of files in the project. Refer to major mode pages for specific information.</m-f12> |
| | | (ido-find-file) | Same as above with Ido completion →See ∑ Completion/Input for completion modes available at the prompt. □ The ido-use-filename-at-point user-options control whether ido-find-file uses the file name at point as the basis for selecting the file name to open. PEL provides the <f11> f M key sequence to dynamically change the value. See below.</f11> |
| Prevent Ido expansion with C-j Open in read-only: | find-file is the original command and uses Emacs default completion. When Ido is used, the ido-find-file command is used instead. When <u>ido</u> mode is used, you can also: Type C-f or C-x f to change to original find-file mode and prevent Ido completion from trying to provide the name of an existing file when you want to specify the name of a file that does not exists yet. Type C-j to accept the file/directory name verbatim without replacement or suggestion. Also useful to open a directory in dired mode. To open a file in read-only mode you can: Use one of the commands below (C-x C-r, etc) Use C-x C-f then type C-x C-q to change the mode of the buffer to read-only mode. PEL supports dynamic selection of completion input that control the way this command operates to help you select a file name: (ido, ivy, helm). | | |
| Open file via popup menu | <f11> f M-f</f11> | (pel-psw-navigate-files) | Open file from a pop-up menu listing files in current directory. Uses (psw-navigate-files "."). • Narrow menu list by typing part of the file name. You can also select directory names. Requires popup-switcher PEL activates when pel-use-popup-switcher is t. |
| 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- | 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 | window) (find-file-other-frame | Edit file FILENAME, in another frame. |
| | | FILENAME & optional WILDCARDS) | • Like C-x C-f, but creates a new frame or reuses an existing one. |

(ido-find-file-other-frame)

| <u>Operation</u> | <u>Keystroke</u> | Function | <u>Note</u> | |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| Set whether ido- find-file uses filename at point | <f11> f M</f11> | (pel-set-ido-use-fname-at- point &optional GLOBALLY) | Set Ido's ability to use the filename at point as a starting point in the current buffer or globally. It can set it to one of: disabled: don't use filename at point. guess: try to identify an exiting file name from the name at point. literal: use name at point in the Ido search for a file name. | |
| | By default this commands sets ido-find-file behaviour for the current buffer only by setting a ido-use-filename-at-point buffer local variable. Use any prefix argument (eg. C-u) to modify the behaviour globally for the current Emacs session, it does not persist across Emacs sessions. For a persistent behaviour change you must customize ido-use-filename-at-point user-option variable. For that, use M-x customize-option. This affects the behaviour of all commands opening file using Ido completion: ido-find-file as the others. | | | |
| Open in read-only | The following command | ds open files in read-only mode | e. While in read-only mode, use Use C-x C-q to permit editing. | |
| Open a file in read-only mode | С-ж С-г | (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 C-f , but marks buffer as read-only. Use C-x C-q to permit editing. | |
| Open Literally | Note that when using | g Ido completion, it is possible | d in the Fundamental mode: the major mode normally associated with the file type is not used. to use a command during completion to force Ido to open the file literally. However, if you are using the only way to open a file literally. | |
| Visit a file literally: with no encoding support | <f11> f M-1</f11> | (find-file-literally FILENAME) | Visit file FILENAME with no conversion of any kind. | |
| and conversion | The major mode usedAutomatic uncompre | d is Fundamental mode regardl ssion and adding a newline at t | are both disabled, and multibyte characters are disabled in the resulting buffer. ess of the file name, and local variable specifications in the file are ignored. the end of the file due to 'require-final-newline' is also disabled. e, this command asks you whether to visit it literally instead. | |
| Open binary | Open a file in hex binary See Suffers . | Open a file in hex binary mode. There are also commands to convert current buffer to hexadecimal editing, like nhexl. See Buffers . | | |
| Open a file in hexl-mode See also: <u>See Buffers</u> | <f11> f M-x</f11> | (hexl-find-file FILENAME) | Edit file FILENAME as a binary file in hex dump format, using the 'hexl-mode'. • Switch to a buffer visiting file FILENAME, creating one if none exists. | |
| Recently opened Completion/Input | When the pel-use-recentf user option is set to t, PEL ensures that Emacs remembers the list of recently opened files and provides: • the pel-initial-recent-f-function user-option identifies which function use used to open the recently opened files: • ido-recentf-open : uses the current Ido prompt or Ido enhanced mechanism. Use <f11> M-c ? to list them and see which one is active. • counsel-recentf : uses a vertical list prompt. Requires counsel external package activated by pel-use-counsel • psw-switch-recentf : uses a popup menu • The menu bar includes a File->Open Recent menu entry. Some other functions are activated by their respective user options.</f11> | | | |
| Open recently opened files, using active method | <f11> f M-r M-r</f11> | (pel-find-recent-file) | Open the recent file prompt using the currently active function. The function is selected by pel-initial-recent-f-function. It can be modified in the current editing session by pel-select-recentf-function, bound to <f1> f M-r M-R. When basic Ido is used, type <tab> to get possible expansions listed in a separate buffer. Ido completion is selectable. Use <f11> M-c ? to list them and see which one is active. When counsel-recentf is used, you can type C-c C-o to copy the list of files inside a special buffer.</f11></tab></f1> | |
| Display the name of the function used to prompt for recently opened file | <f11> f M-r M-?</f11> | (pel-show-recentf-function &optional AFTER- SELECTION-P) | Display what function is used to visit recently opened files. • The argument is for internal use, it is not available interactively. | |
| Select the function used to list/prompt the recently opened files. | <f11> f M-r M-R</f11> | (pel-select-recentf- function & optional RECENTF-FUNCTION SILENT) | Select the function to visit recently opened files. Modifies what is used in the current editing session, not the persistent value selected by the pel-initial-recent-f-function user-option. • The arguments are for internal use, they are not available interactively. | |
| Edit list of recently opened files | <f11> f M-r M-e</f11> | (recentf-edit-list) | Show a dialog to delete selected files from the recent list. • Use this to remove some of the files from the list. | |
| Open file at point | The following commands, followed by the flap commands, allow opening files from the file name taken at point (the cursor location). They work regardless of the input completion method currently used. Note that when using the Ido completion mode, it is possible to instruct Ido to use a file name at point as the basis for the file name to open. This Ido behaviour is controlled by the ido-use-filename-at-point user-option. With PEL you can control it globally or locally with <f11> f M</f11> | | | |
| Open filename at point in a browser See also: • <u>N Key-Chords</u> • <u>N Web</u> | • <f11> f / • 6u</f11> | (pel-browse-filename-at- point) | Open the file name at point inside the system's browser. • If point is at a directory name, open the systems application that browses directories (eg. macOS Finder, Windows Explorer). • 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 See also: * ** Key-Chords**, ** Web | • <f11> f M-/ • 7u</f11> | (browse-url-at-point &optional ARG) | Ask a WWW browser to load the URL at or before point. Variable 'browse-url-browser-function' says which browser to use. With prefix argument inverts the value of the option 'browse-url-new-window-flag'. Use <f11> <f2> E u to open the browse-url group that contains relevant user options.</f2></f11> | |
| Copy URL at point in temporary file and visit the file | <f11> f M-u</f11> | (pel-open-url-at-point) | Copy the URL at point to a local temporary file and visit that file. • A The download copy of the file does not have the same name and may not open with the proper mode because it won't have an extension. The HTML formatted files will be recognized by Emacs but most of the files won't be. • Save the file somewhere else using the C-x C-w key sequence and identify the proper extension to activate the required major mode. | |
| • With goto-address-mode | C-c C-f | | This binding is only available when point is over the URL and the goto-address-mode minor mode is active. Use <f11> f u or <f11> f U to activate this mode.</f11></f11> | |

| <u>Operation</u> | <u>Keystroke</u> | Function | <u>Note</u> | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Open file or web-page whose name is at point See also: Key-Chords | • C-^ • <f11> f . • <m-f11> M-f M • 6y</m-f11></f11> | (pel-open-at-point &optional N) | Open the file, library or the URL, named at point, with potential line & column #s. • Will find source files in current project as specified by pel-filename-at-point-finders user-option. Supports glob characters, partial directory path. When multiple files are found it prompts using the method selected by pel-prompt-read-method user-option The <u>6y</u> key-chord is available if pel-use-key-chord is non-nil. Command prefixes are supported with the key-chord. See <u>Xey-Chords</u> . | | |
| • <u>外 reStructuredText</u> • <u>乳 I - C</u> • <u>乳 I - C++</u> • <u>乳 I - Erlang</u> | This command works generically but is also specialized for some major modes, like C, C++, Erlang, reStructuredText. See their respective pages for the mode specific features. When executed from with a buffer in sh-mode, the '=' and ':' characters are used as additional delimiters. Shell variables (such as \$HOME) are expanded In general the command extracts the file (or directory) name (and possibly line and column numbers) from text at point and tries to open the file or directory. If the file is not found then the command searches the file inside a directory tree holding the current file. The root of that directory tree is identified by the presence of a project marker file, one of the file identified in the pel-project-root-identifiers user option. Something like .git, .hg, .project or .pel-project by default. | | | | |
| | This command extracts the file name to search from text at point. The file name is either surrounded by white space characters or the delimiters listed below. 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: "`' ()[]{}<> ''" 「」() 〈〉 《》[] []] «» · ○ ◇ () 《》 。 Tab and newline are also delimiter characters. 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. If the string identifies a URL, the function opens the page in the systems' default browser. The file name extracted from the file may include glob characters (even though this is not used in a #include "" or #include <> statement but it can be used elsewhere). Otherwise the command attempts to open the file name with the specified name. If that file does not exists it then proceed to search for it. | | | | |
| Select prompt method⊷ | When several file names are found, the command lists them and prompts using the method selected by pel-prompt-read-method user-option. The default is a very primitive function implemented by PEL. You can select a more powerful ivy prompting instead. With ivy selected PEL will automatically set pel-use-ivy to t and livy mode will be installed automatically when you restart Emacs. Note that the command shows all files found by the specified search method, it does not only use the first one found. This allows you to detect potential duplication in header file names in large include paths. It prompts for incomplete file names, allowing editing the find file (with completion), search for libraries files (type 1) according to current file type. | | | | |
| Select target window | Select target window: Without argument: 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. 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. With numeric argument N: N < 0: create a new window and use that. N = 0: use the 'other' (the next) window. N = 1, 3, 7or above (excluding 8, 9 and 10): select the target window based on the number of editable windows in frame: if 1 window: split that window and use the new window, if 2 windows: use the other window, if 3 or more windows: use the current window. N is: 8: up, 2: down, 4:left, 5:current, 6:right. | | | | |
| See function docstring for more info. | N is 9: open the file in the system's browser, open a directory name at point with directory browsing (eg. macOS Finder, Windows Explorer). N is 10: open the URL at point in the system's browser. Selecting Minibuffer, inexistent or dedicated window is not allowed. | | | | |
| ffap commands | Emacs provides the ffap (find file at point) command set. The ffap command is similar to pel-find-file-at-point-in-window but does not support line and numbers, does not support identifying a window with command arguments and is not designed to support multiple programming languages. It does however support other facilities and can be installed to replace the behaviour of standard file management command bindings such as C-x C-f. PEL activates the Emacs built-in ffap library when the pel-use-ffap user option is set to either t or to ffap-bindings. In both cases these activate the key bindings shown below. When pel-use-ffap is set to ffap-bindings, then PEL also activates the standard ffap bindings which take over the behaviour of the main file finding and dired commands. This means that Ido, Ivy or Helm are no longer available for these commands. If pel-use-ffap is only set to t then the standard ffap bindings is not activated. | | | | |
| 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. Web URL opens in browser. With a prefix, this command behaves exactly like 'ffap-file-finder'. If 'ffap-require-prefix' is set, the prefix meaning is reversed. See also the variables 'ffap-dired-wildcards', 'ffap-newfile-prompt', 'ffap-url-unwrap-local', 'ffap-url-unwrap-remote', and the functions ffap-file-at-point' and 'ffap-url-at-point'. | | |
| Find file/URL at point - read only | <f11> f a P</f11> | (ffap-read-only) | Like 'ffap', but mark buffer as read-only. | | |
| Find another file/URL at point in window | <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. | | |
| Find file/URL in other window | <f11> f a w</f11> | (ffap-other-window) | Like 'ffap', but put buffer in another window. | | |
| Find file/URL in other frame Find file/URL in other | <f11> f a f</f11> | (ffap-read-only-other- | Like 'ffap', but put buffer in another frame. | | |
| window - read only Find file/URL in other | <f11> f a W</f11> | (ffap-read-only-other- window) (ffap-read-only-other- | Like 'ffap', but put buffer in another window and mark as read-only. Like 'ffap', but put buffer in another frame and mark as read-only. | | |
| frame - read only Start Dired with file at | <f11> f a f</f11> | frame) (dired-at-point &optional | Start Dired, defaulting to file at point. See 'ffap'. | | |
| point Start Dired with file at | <f11> f a D</f11> | FILENAME) (ffap-dired-other-window) | Like 'dired-at-point', but put buffer in another window. | | |
| point in other window Start Dired with file at | <f11> f a M-d</f11> | (ffap-dired-other-frame) | Like 'dired-at-point', but put buffer in another frame. | | |
| point in other frame List directory of file at | <f11> f a l</f11> | (ffap-list-directory) | Like 'dired-at-point' and 'list-directory'. | | |
| Open a menu of all files, URL in current buffer. | <f11> f a m</f11> | (ffap-menu &optional RESCAN) | Put up a menu of files and URLs mentioned in this buffer. Set mark, jump to choice, and try to fetch it. The menu is cached in 'ffap-menu-alist', and rebuilt by 'ffap-menu-rescan'. • With prefix argument: forces a rebuild. Searches with 'ffap-menu-regexp'. | | |

| <u>Operation</u> | <u>Keystroke</u> | Function | <u>Note</u> | |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| Open <u>Dired</u> (Directory Editor) | directory path to Cx C-f | ng) a directory Emacs opens a buffer in Dired mode, that looks like a ls -I output, which allows several operations. If you specify a -f then Dired-mode is used. You can also use the following commands to open buffer in Dired mode. b browse a file directory tree with file tree browsers, like NeoTree and Ztree, described below in this table. can also be used. | | |
| Open a directory editor See also: <u>No Dired</u> <u>Completion/Input</u> | • C-x d • %-D | (dired DIRNAME &optional SWITCHES) (ido-dired) | Opens a Dired-mode buffer on the specified directory. Prompt for the directory name. PEL activates ido when the pel-use-ido-mode user option is set to t. See Completion/Input for completion modes available at the prompt. | |
| 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 See also: Completion/Input | 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 -l switch to 'ls'. | |
| Activating URLs to browse and open files | Emacs provides the goto-url-mode and the goto-url-prog-mode that turn URLs found in the current buffer into clickable buttons. Once the mode is active the following key sequences are available wheel point is over a URL button: C-c RET or the mouse to click on the button. If the URL is an email address a buffer to write an email to that address opens. If the URL is a web or FTP address the system browser is invoked to open the address. C-c C-n: move point to the end of the next URL in the buffer. C-c C-p: move point to to the previous URL in the buffer. C-c C-f: download the file identified by the URL into a local temporary file and visit the file. See (pel-open-url-at-point) above. | | | |
| Toggle goto-address- 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-addrress- 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) | Open the URL at point: If URL is a web page: open it in a browser If URL is a mail address: Send mail to address at point: 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. | |
| Move to end of next URL in buffer See also: <u>Navigation</u> | C-c C-n <f6> C-n</f6> | (pel-goto-next-url) | Move point forward to the end of the next URL located in the current buffer. • The global <f6> C-n key binding activates the goto-address-mode if it is not already active.</f6> | |
| Move to beginning of previous URL in buffer See also: <u>Navigation</u> | C-c C-p <f11> C-p</f11> | (pel-goto-previous-url) | Move point backward to the beginning of the previous URL located in the current buffer. • The global <f6> C-p key binding activates the goto-address-mode if it is not already active.</f6> | |
| Insert text of another file at point | The following command | ls can be used to insert text from | om 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 specified file | The following commands can be used to write text selected from current buffer into 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 FILENAME) | Append the contents of the region to the end of file FILENAME. • Prompts for the specified file. | |
| Set file mode | <f11> f m</f11> | (set-file-modes FILENAME MODE) | Set mode bits of file named FILENAME to MODE (an integer). Only the 12 low bits of MODE are used. Prompts for file name and then for chmod-like file mode value. | |
| Reverting Files | If the file's content changed on the disk and you want to refresh the Emacs buffer visiting that file, you need to "revert" the file. If you want to use Emacs to monitor the content of a file that is continuously modified by an external process (like a log file) set the <i>revert-without-query</i> variable to a list of regular expressions describing the field it'll apply to. You can also activate the auto-revert mode for the current 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. • 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> t • <f11> f r t</f11></f11> | (auto-revert-tail-mode &optional ARG) | Toggle reverting tail of buffer when the file grows. • With a prefix argument ARG, enable Auto-Revert Tail Mode if ARG is positive, and disable it | |
| See also: ∑ Scrolling | | | otherwise. 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. 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! | |
| Cancel/restart auto- revert timer | rt 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. | | | |

| <u>Operation</u> | <u>Keystroke</u> | Function | | | <u>Note</u> | | |
|---|--|--|-----------|--|---|--|--|
| Saving Files | Use the following comn | nands to save the content | t of a bu | uffer to a filesystem file. | | | |
| | PEL supports the following controllable actions on file save. Each of these actions are activated via an action-specific PEL user-option, and can temporarily be disabled with a command for the file in the current buffer. The actions and their associated user-option and command are listed here: | | | | | | |
| | Action • Delete trailing space | | _ | user-option trailing-whitespace | Overriding command pel-toggle-delete-trailing-space-on-save | Key Sequence <f11> M-W</f11> | |
| | Update time stamp oUpdate copyright not | n save pel-ı | update | time-stamp copyright | pel-toggle-update-time-stamp-on-save pel-toggle-update-copyright-on-save | <f11> M-T <f11> M-C</f11></f11> | |
| Save file to disk | • C-x C-s | (save-buffer &optional A | • | | red file. By default, it makes the previous version | | |
| | • %-s | | • | oreviously requested or if this in with C-u: marks this version with C-u C-u: makes the power with C-u C-u: mark makes the previous version. With prefix 0: never make the On macOS in graphics model. Save and activated on-file- | s the first save. In to become a backup when the next save is double previous version into a backup file It is this version to become a backup when the next | ne xt save is done, and | |
| Save all/some files | С-х s | (save-some-buffers &optional ARG PRED) | • | Prompt for files that are modified by services as save notes and a condition of the conditi | uestion | | |
| Write buffer to specified file Save As | C-x C-w | (write-file FILENAME &optional CONFIRM) (ido-write-file) | • | Similar to "Save-As": prompt for Can also be yanked in the mand to renar | nini buffer, use M-n to edit it. | | |
| Changed current buffer changed state | M-~ | (not-modified &optional ARG) | | Mark current buffer as unmodified, not needing to be saved. • With C-u prefix ARG, mark buffer as modified, so C-x C-s will save. | | | |
| Toggle copyright update on save | <f11> M-@</f11> | (pel-toggle-update- copyright-on-save &optional GLOBALLY) | • | By default change behaviour When GLOBALLY argument current Emacs editing session To modify the global state pure user option via the 'pel-pkg- | e save and display current state. r for local buffer only. is non-nil, using any prefix argument, change it for local buffer only. It is non-nil, using any prefix argument, change it for the change does not persist across Emacs semanently modify the customized value of the 'for-filemng' group customize buffer with <f11> able when the pel-update-copyright is set to t.</f11> | essions). pel-update-copyright' | |
| Toggle timestamp update on save | <f11> M-T</f11> | (pel-toggle-update-time stamp-on-save &options GLOBALLY) | nal • | By default change behaviour When GLOBALLY argument current Emacs editing session To modify the global state pustamp' user option via the 'g | file save and display current state. r for local buffer only. is non-nil, using any prefix argument, change it to the change does not persist across Emacs semanently modify the customized value of the 'poel-pkg-for-filemng' group customize buffer with able when the pel-update-time-stamp is set to | essions). pel-update-time- <f11> f <f2> 1.</f2></f11> | |
| Toggle delete trailing space on save See also: <u></u> Whitespace | • <f11> M-W • <f11> t w M-W</f11></f11> | (pel-toggle-delete-trailing space-on-save & options (GLOBALLY) | al • | By default change behavious When GLOBALLY argument current Emacs editing session Trailing whitespace deletion whitespace user-option is set To modify the global state possion | es on file save and display current state. r for local buffer only. is non-nil, using any prefix argument, change it ton (the change does not persist across Emacs son is automatically activated on file save when the tot. Use this command to de-activate it or re-activate it modify the customized value of the 'pt the 'pel-pkg-for-filemng' group customize buffile. | essions). pel-delete-trailing- ctivate it. pel-delete-trailing- | |
| 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 | | | | | | |
| Insert copyright notice at point See also: <u>∑ Inserting</u> Text | variable, normally define | ed as the first 2000 charace (copyright &optional STF ARG) | R I | This variable is customizable. nsert a copyright by \$ORGAN If the ORGANIZATION environ | IZATION notice at cursor. Onment variable is not available, Emacs prompts | for it. | |
| Update file's copyright notice | M-x copyright- update | (copyright-update &optional ARG INTERACTIVEP) | | | e years in the notice rather than adding the curren urrent-gpl-version' is set, any copying permission | • | |
| | 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) | | | | | | |

| <u>Operation</u> | <u>Keystroke</u> | Function | <u>Note</u> | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Automatic File | | | es. It must be activated by adding the time-stamp function to the before-save-hook variable. | |
| Time Stamp on file save | (add-hook 'l | | | |
| References: | • Time-stamp: " " | | | |
| <u>TimeStamps @</u> <u>EmacsWiki</u> | You can, however change these defaults and get Emacs to update all sorts of time stamp formats, even inside source code statements: Emacs controls automatic insertion of timestamp with the following variables: | | | |
| Change time stamp format in: | • time-stamp-pattern consists of 4 parts, each one controlled by a variable: | | | |
| markdown file reStucturedText file | time-stamp-line-limit: identifies where in the file the time stamp can be located. Defaults to 8: the first 8 lines. time-stamp-start: identifies the text pattern that precedes the time stamp. time-stamp-end: identifies the end of the time stamp. time-stamp-format specifies the format of the time stamp. | | | |
| See also: Inserting | • Something like "%:y-%02m-%02d %02H:%02M:%02S %u" to specify the date and time in ISO format, with the user login's name. | | | |
| Text | time-stamp-time-zone specifies the time zone selection: nil: Emacs local time | | | |
| | • t: Unive • wall : sy | rsal time vstem wall clock time | | |
| | | ntrolled by a TZ environment va p-format and time-stamp-tim | ariable e-zone variables can be set in your init file or via the Emacs customization system. | |
| | n * | d in the time-stamp customiza | tion group. ling or after the automatically updated time stamp, it is best to use file local variables: this will allow | |
| | | | ious formats. As an example, see the top and end of the PEL manual raw format file. | |
| | | | within the first 8 lines of the file, otherwise it will not be updated automatically. set the time-stamp-line-limit file local variable. | |
| | PEL provides the ex | tra user-option to control the a | utomatic generation of time-stamps: | |
| | | The state of the s | ether time-stamps are automatically update time stamps in all files where a valid time-stamp pove. Set it to t (the default) to allow automatic time stamp updates. Set it to nil to prevent them. You | |
| | | | session by using the <f11> f M-t key sequence. kage provides a set of text insert commands which include inserting a time stamp.</f11> | |
| | | ng Text table for the appropria | | |
| Update file time stamp | <f11> f t</f11> | (time-stamp) | Force update the time stamp string(s) in the current buffer. • Updates a time stamp of format recognized by <i>Emacs current settings</i> even when automatic time- | |
| | | | stamp update is off. • More information about the "Emacs current settings" in the description block above. | |
| Toggle time stamp | <f11> f M-t</f11> | (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. | |
| RFC-Mode | | _ | mode commands. Requires <u>rfc-mode</u> activated by <u>pel-use-rfc-mode</u> , | |
| Read a specific RFC Browse RFCs | <f11> B r <f11> B R</f11></f11> | (rfc-mode-read NUMBER) | Read the RFC document NUMBER. Offer the number at point as default. Browse through all RFC documents referenced in the index. | |
| | | (rfc-mode-browse) | | |
| Browsers | Emacs supports mechanisms to browse file directories. This includes: Emacs built-in <u>Dired</u> directory editor, along with several extensions. You can have several different Dired buffers in an Emacs session. The Emacs built-in <u>Speedbar</u> and its extensions. There can only be one instance of a Speedbar buffer and that can be inside another frame. Several other external packages: <u>Neotree</u>, treemacs and <u>Ztree</u> | | | |
| View Directory | The NeoTree extern | The NeoTree external package provides a Vim-NerdTree like tree-view of a directory with expansion/collapse. | | |
| Tree with NeoTree | PEL activates it when pel-use-neotree is set to t . • <f11> B N <f2> opens the PEL customization group to set pel-use-neotree.</f2></f11> | | | |
| | • <f11> B N <f< td=""><td>3> prompts, select neotree to</td><td>open the neotree customization group.</td></f<></f11> | 3> prompts, select neotree to | open the neotree customization group. | |
| | There is only one NeoTree window. It is a dedicated window. Icons used in the tree can be changed: In text mode set pel-neotree-font-in-terminal to arrows to use arrows instead of '+'. In graphics mode, if pel-neotree-font-in-graphics is set to icons then the icons provided by all-the-icons package is used. | | | |
| | | | | |
| | However, once PEL has installed the package it does not install the fonts. You must install the fonts manually by executing: M-x all-the-icons-install-fonts | | | |
| View directory tree with | <f11> B N N</f11> | (neotree-toggle) | Toggle show/hide the NeoTree window. | |
| <u>NeoTree</u> | | In the NeoTree buffer the follo | | |
| | | n next line, p previous> end of buffer, < top buffe | r | |
| | | SPC or RET or TAB : OpenU Go up a directory | current item if it is a file, Fold/Unfold current item if it is a directory. | |
| | | g Refresh A Maximize/Minimize the N | leoTree Window | |
| | | • H Toggle display hidden file | es. Controlled by neo-hidden-regexp-list user option. | |
| | | O Recursively open a direct C-c C-n Create a file or c | tory breate a directory if filename ends with a '/' | |
| | | C-c C-d Delete a file or a C-c C-r Rename a file or | • | |
| | | • C-c C-c Change the root • C-c C-p Copy a file or a | directory. | |
| Open NeoTree for dir of current buffer | <f11> B N F</f11> | (neotree-find &optional PATH DEFAULT-PATH) | Open a NeoTree window using the directory of the current buffer. No prompt. | |
| Open NeoTree for specified directory | <f11> B N D</f11> | (neotree-dir PATH) | Prompt for a directory. Open a Neotree window for that directory. | |
| Close NeoTree window | <f11> B N H</f11> | (neotree-hide) | Close the NeoTree window. | |
| Show NeoTree window | <f11> B N S</f11> | (neotree-show) | Show the NeoTree window. | |
| <u>Treemacs</u> | | | pace/project oriented tree-based view with expansion/collapse and actions of directories and files. | |
| Manipulate directory | | | cs user-option is turned on (set to t). | |
| trees associated as projects/workspaces | On PEL, open (or close) the treemacs buffer with the <f11> B T key sequence.</f11> | | | |
| Manipulate the directories and files | | | | |
| ** | In graphics mode the mouse provides access to most commands. In terminal (and graphics) mode when pain is inside the treemacs dedicated window, the treemacs major mode key-bindings, listed below, are available. | | | |
| See: ∑X Treemacs | The treemacs-mode an | d extensions have an extensive | e command set. See ∑X Treemacs for the complete list | |
| Open/close treemacs | <f11> B T</f11> | (treemacs) | Initialise or toggle treemacs. See ∑x Treemacs for treemacs-mode commands. | |
| | _ | · | If the treemacs window is visible hide it. | |
| | | | If a treemacs buffer exists, but is not visible show it. If no treemacs buffer exists for the current frame create and show it. If the street and show it. If the first analysis and the street and show it. | |
| | | | If the workspace is empty additionally ask for the root path of the first project to add. | |

| <u>Operation</u> | <u>Keystroke</u> | Function | <u>Note</u> | |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| View Directory Tree with ZTree | The <u>ztree</u> external package provides a text-based tree-view of a directory with expansion/collapse. PEL ztree customization: | | | |
| | <f11> B <f2> opens the PEL customization group (select the tree subgroup). See also: Customize.</f2></f11> PEL activates it when pel-use-ztree is set to t. Modify one of the following PEL provided customization user options: pel-ztree-dir-move-focus set to t to move focus to new entry when <ret> is typed.</ret> pel-ztree-dir-filter-list add a list of regexp to ignore more file. Do not enter quote for string. | | | |
| View directory as tree with ztree-dir | <f11> B Z</f11> | (ztree-dir PATH) | Open an interactive buffer with the directory tree of the PATH given. ➤ Opens the tree buffer in the current window. ➤ There can be several buffers with different ztree-dir trees. | |
| | | In the Ztree Dir buffer the following keys are available: • > : narrow/display directory on current line | | |
| Searching/Finding Files See also: | The following commands can be used to search for file by name or content. • See: Video: .Emacs #6: searching and finding files. Use man to get more information, • on locate: <f11>? m locate</f11> | | | |
| • <u>» Dired</u> | • on find: <f1< td=""><td></td><td>commands. For instance type (to toggle the display of more than the file names.</td></f1<> | | commands. For instance type (to toggle the display of more than the file names. | |
| 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. | |
| Run grep via find See also: <u>▼ Grep</u> | • <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. This command uses a special history list for its arguments, so you can easily repeat a find command. | |
| 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 find 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, use: -iname "*\.h" • 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: find • -name 'PATTERN' -ls | |
| 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. | |

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? | | | | |
| Find files faster with the recent files package | Mickey Petersen article describing the recent file feature. PEL ido-recentf-open is taken from Mickey Peterson code. | | | |