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Time Tracking

Operation	Keystroke	Function	Note
Time Tracking with Emacs	Two main packages are used to track time with Emacs: • Emacs built-in **timeclock** with **timelog** external library. • **Org-mode with clock time** PEL currently explicitly supports the first set and currently provides non-documented support for Org-mode but no extra customization. Time information can be displayed on Emacs mode line when it is enabled. See ⟫ **Mode Line** for more information.		
Open this PDF file. See also: ⟫ **Help/Info**	`<f11> T <f1>`	(**pel-help-pdf** &optional OPEN-WEB-PAGE)	Open the ⟫ **Time Tracking** 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.
Open PEL abbreviation customization group. See also:⟫ **Customize**	`<f11> T <f2>`	(**pel-customize-pel** &optional OTHER-WINDOW)	Open the PEL customize group(s) for the current context. Use this to open to change PEL user option variables the activate and control the various abbreviations features. • When a prefix argument (like **`C-u`**) opens the buffer inside another window.
Customize Emacs built-in abbreviation support See also:⟫ **Customize**	`<f11> T <f3>`	(**pel-customize-library** &optional OTHER-WINDOW)	Customize Emacs *time related* groups which includes: display-time, timeclock, timelog. • When a prefix argument (like **`C-u`**) opens the buffer inside another window. • Group belonging to files that have not yet been loaded are normally not accessible in Emacs and via the customize-group command. PEL, however, attempts to locate the file that defines a non-loaded customization group and will prompt you for loading the file if it finds it.
Control timeclock display on Modeline	🎛 To activate the display of this information you can set the timeclock-mode-line-display user-option on. • Access the custom group buffer with `<f11> T <f3>` This can also be toggled using the following command.		
Toggle display of time left in todays' workday on the mode line See also: ⟫ **Mode Line**	`<f11> T M-d`	(**timeclock-mode-line-display** &optional ARG)	Toggle display of the amount of time left today in the mode line. • With prefix ARG, turn mode line display on if and onlyif ARG is positive. Returns the new status of timeclock mode line display (non-nil means on). • If 'timeclock-use-display-time' is non-nil (the default), then the function 'display-time-mode' must be active, and the mode line will be updated whenever the time display is updated. Otherwise the timeclock will use its own sixty second timer to do its updating.
Using Emacs built-in timeclock	• The simple **built-in timeclock package** with provides a set of commands to define a task name, start and stop timer. This logs into time into the `~/.emacs.d/timelog` file by default. This can be modified by changing the **timeclock-file** user-option. • 🤖 Activated by **pel-use-timeclock** user-option. Use `<f11> T <f2>` to access the custom group to set its value. • timeclock can display the following information on the modeline: • time left in today's workday, as controlled by the user-option and the command described just above.		
Clock in specific activity	**`C-x t i`**	(**timeclock-in** &optional ARG PROJECT FIND-PROJECT)	Clock in, recording the current time moment in the timelog. • With a numeric prefix ARG, record the fact that today has only that many hours in it to be worked. • If ARG is a non-numeric prefix argument (non-nil, but not a number), 0 is assumed (working on a holiday or weekend). • This feature only has effect the first time this function is called within a day. PROJECT is the project being clocked into. Prompt for project (activity) name.
Clock out	**`C-x t o`**	(**timeclock-out** &optional ARG REASON FIND-REASON)	Clock out, recording the current time moment in the timelog. • If a prefix ARG is given, the user has completed the project that was begun during the last time segment. Prompt for the user's reason for clocking out.
Change activity	**`C-x t c`**	(**timeclock-change** &optional ARG PROJECT)	Change to working on a different project. • This clocks out of the current project, then clocks in on a new one. • With a prefix ARG, consider the previous project as finished at the time of changeover. • PROJECT is the name of the last project you were working on.
Re-read timeclock file	**`C-x t r`**	(**timeclock-reread-log**)	Re-read the timeclock, to account for external changes inside the timelog file. • Returns the new value of 'timeclock-discrepancy'. ☝ If you modify the content of the timelog file, run this command to update all data.
Update timeclock info shown on the mode line	**`C-x t u`**	(**timeclock-update-mode-line**)	Update the 'timeclock-mode-string' displayed in the mode line. • The value of 'timeclock-relative' user-option affects the display as described in that variable's documentation: Whether to make reported time relative to 'timeclock-workday'. For example, if the length of a normal workday is eight hours, and you work four hours on Monday, then the amount of time "remaining" on Tuesday is twelve hours -- relative to an averaged work period of eight hours -- or eight hours, non-relative. So relative time takes into account any discrepancy of time under-worked or over-worked on previous days. This only affects the timeclock mode line display. • To have anything show on the mode line, first do `M-x display-time` to activate time display.
Display time of the end of today's workday	**`C-x t w`**	(**timeclock-when-to-leave-string** &optional SHOW-SECONDS TODAY-ONLY)	Return a string representing the end of today's workday. • This string is relative to the value of 'timeclock-workday' which defaults to 8 hours. • If SHOW-SECONDS is non-nil, the value printed/returned will include seconds. If TODAY-ONLY is non-nil, the value returned will be relative only to the time worked today, and not to past time.
timelog extension for timeclock	This external package complements the built-in timeclock, providing the ability to create time accumulation summaries, something that is lacking from timeclock. 📦 Requires **timelog** external package 🤖 activated when **pel-use-timeclock-timelog** user-option is turned on. 🪵 Originally developed by **Markus Flambard and saved as a gist**, I cloned and modernized the file and **stored it in Github**.		
Print time summary for the specified date	`C-x t l d`	(**timelog-summarize-day** DATE-STRING)	Prompts for the specified date in YYYYMMDD format. • Use M-n to select today's date. • Use M-p and then M-n to navigate through prompt history. • Print a time summary report for the specified day in the current buffer.
Print time summary for today	`C-x t l t`	(**timelog-summarize-today**)	Print a time summary report for today in the current buffer.
Print time summary for the specified month	`C-x t l m`	(**timelog-summarize-month** MONTH-STRING)	Prompts for the specified moth in YYYYMM format. • Use M-n to select this current month. • Use M-p and then M-n to navigate through prompt history. • Print a time summary report for the specified month in the current buffer.
Print time summary for the specified period	`C-x t l r`	(**timelog-summarize-range** FIRST-DAY LAST-DAY)	Print a summary for the period starting the first day and ending on the last day. • Prompts for the first and last (inclusive) date in YYYYMMDD format. • Use M-n to select today's date for the last date. • Use M-p and then M-n to navigate through prompt history. • ⚠ Both dates **must** be inside the timelog file otherwise the operation fails; the function uses simple date string searches to locate the first and last entries inside the file.
Print day-by-day time summary for the specified period	`C-x t l D`	(**timelog-summarize-each-day-in-range** FIRST-DAY LAST-DAY)	Print a summary for the each days inside the period starting the first day and ending on the last day. • Prompts for the first and last (inclusive) date in YYYYMMDD format. • Use M-n to select today's date for the last date. • Use M-p and then M-n to navigate through prompt history. • ⚠ Both dates **must** be inside the timelog file otherwise the operation fails; the function uses simple date string searches to locate the first and last entries inside the file.

Operation	Keystroke	Function	Note
Display time spent on current project	`C-x t l p`	(**timelog-current-project**)	Prints a summary of time spent in the current project on the echo area.
Display time worked today	`C-x t l e`	(**timelog-workday-elapsed**)	Prints the amount of time worked today on the echo area.
Open the timeclock-file in current buffer	`C-x t l f`	(**timelog-open-file**)	Open the timeclock-file in the current buffer. This is the file where all timeclock activity is stored.
Using Org-Mode to keep track of time	Org-mode is most probably the most flexible, powerful and extensible way to track time via tasks. 🚧 I will provide more information about it once I get the timelog to completely working and add some features. Org-mode is a huge topic and is very well documented. For the moment please refer to Org Mode documentation itself. See the references below.		

Time Tracking — References

Topic & Link	Notes
Clocking Work Time - **The Org Manual**	
Time Tracking in Emacs with org-clock	Short article written by David Charte, on November 2017.