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PEL Environment Variables

Environment variable	Description	Context	Used by	
Last updated on:	2025-04-08			
PEL Startup				
PEL_SHELL	Recommended environment variable name used by PEL early-init logic to detect that Emacs was launched from within a shell (as opposed to an Operating System GUI menu or icon). When used it must be identified in the pel-shell-detection-envvar user option. Use **<f11> M-S <f2>** to open the PEL fast startup customization group; it holds this user option.	**P Fast Startup**		PEL fast startup initialization code.
PEL_EMACS_IN_GRAPHICS	Set by PEL Emacs launcher scripts to indicate whether Emacs was launched in graphics mode or not. Set to 1 to indicate it is launched in graphics mode. The PEL **ge script** sets it to 1.	**Run Emacs daemon & clients**		PEL initialization code.
PEL Insert Text Helper				
PEL_INSERT_FILENAME_ROOT	Identify the root path stripped off absolute paths inserted by the **pel-insert-filename** command. This value overrides the value of the pel-insert-filename-root user option and can itself be overridden in the current buffer by executing the **pel-set-insert-filename-root** command.	**Inserting Text**	• **<f11> i f** • **<f6> f**	(**pel-insert-filename** &optional N USE-TILDE DIR-ONLY)
			<f6> <f4> f	(**pel-set-insert-filename-root**)
PEL C/C++ File Open Helper				
PEL_CC_FIND_TOOLCHAIN	Holds the name of a tool chain used when the **pel-c-file-finder-method** is set to **pel-ini-file.** In that case it effectively select a new set of tool-chain specific directories to search by **pel-open-at-point**.	**C** **C++**	• **M-*** • **<f11> f .** • **6y**	(**pel-open-at-point** &optional N)
PEL Erlang Support Helper	See, from **about-erlang project**: • **Developing Erlang Code with PEL** • **Setting PEL Erlang Environment** • **Using the Erlang man files within Emacs** • **Using Specialized OS Shells for Erlang**			
PEL_ERLANG_VERSION	Recommended name of the environment variable PEL can use to identify the version of Erlang, if that is the identification method selected by the **pel-erlang-version-detection-method** user option.	**Erlang** ⓒⓕⒶ	**<f11> SPC e ?** **<f12> ?**	(**pel-show-erlang-version**)
PEL_ERLANG_EXECPATH	Recommended name of the environment variable PEL can use to identify the directory path where the Erlang executable files are located, when this method of identification is selected by the **pel-erlang-exec-path** user option.	**Erlang** ⓒⓕⒶ		
PEL_ERLANG_ROOT_DIR	Recommended name of the environment variable PEL can use to identify the root Erlang directory, when this method is selected by the **pel-erlang-path-detection-method** user option.	**Erlang** ⓒⓕⒶ		
PEL_ERLANG_MAN_PARENT_DIR	Recommended name of the environment variable PEL can use to identify the root directory holding OTP/Erlang man files, when this method is selected by the **pel-erlang-man-parent-rootdir** user-option.	**Erlang** ⓒⓕⒶ	• **<f11> ? m** • **M-<f8>** • **⌘-M**	(**man** MAN-ARGS)