

Spell Checking

Description	Keystroke	Function	Note
Spell Checking in Emacs	Spell checking is not performed by Emacs itself; Emacs uses an external process for that. On Unix-like system it's either aspell or ispell; aspell is preferred because it is faster and is more modern. The ispell process is not able to handle UTF-8 documents, but the aspell process does. These programs are not bundled with Emacs; you may have to install these programs independently.		
Open this PDF file. See also: 🔗 Help/Info	<f11> \$ <f1>	(pel-help-pdf &optional OPEN-WEB-PAGE)	Open the local copy of the 🔗 Spell Checking PDF file unless a command prefix (like C-u) was used. In that case it opens the Github-hosted file instead.
🔗 Customize PEL spell checking control	<f11> \$ <f2>	(pel-customize-pel &optional OTHER-WINDOW)	Customize PEL support for: spell checking. Identify which major modes will automatically activate either flyspell-mode or flyspell-prog-mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none">If OTHER-WINDOW is non-nil (use C-u), display in other window.
🔗 Customize Emacs spell checking control	<f11> \$ <f3>	(pel-customize-library &optional OTHER-WINDOW)	Customize Emacs spelling support. Opens the following customization groups: ispell, flyspell.
Using Ispell	Once Ispell (or Flyspell) is activated the Ispell commands are available. If Flyspell mode is active the following 2 key bindings are instead bound to the Flyspell functions (see the section below on how to activate Flyspell). But even then all other ispell commands are available.		
Select Spell checking program	<div>📦 To use Ispell and Flyspell you must identify the spell checker program that is used.</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The program must be a Ispell compatible program, something like ispell, aspell, hunspell, or enchant.If the program you want to use is not on your computer you will have to install it separately.<ul style="list-style-type: none">Without PEL you would normally have to specify the directory where the program is found in SPELL-PATH when that program is not already found in the 'exec-path'.<ul style="list-style-type: none">To be used, the value must be a string.If no path is needed use nil.Any other type raises an error.Optionally identify the PERSONAL-DICTIONARY to use. <div>🔗 📖 📄</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">When using PEL you control the selection of the spelling program via the pel-spell-check-tools user option. With it you can specify the spell checker program to use for several Operating Systems. This way you can use the same customization on several computers if necessary. You can also identify the location of your personal dictionary file.For the changes to take effect, save the changes and execute pel-init (with M-x pel-init) or restart Emacs.PEL updates Emacs exec-path if the program is not already accessible through it.Use <f11> <f2> \$ key sequence to gain access to the pel-pkg-for-spelling customization group. Use C-u <f11> <f2> \$ to also open the customization buffer of Ispell and Flyspell.PEL activates flyspell-mode and fix issues in terminal mode. When running in terminal mode, the function modifies 'flyspell-emacs-popup' with 'pel-spell-flyspell-emacs-popup-textual' to allow the flyspell pop-up menu to work in terminal mode.		
Ispell - complete a word	<ul style="list-style-type: none">M-<tab>C-M-iC-.	(ispell-complete-word &optional INTERIOR-FRAG)	Try to complete the word before or at point. <ul style="list-style-type: none">If optional INTERIOR-FRAG is non-nil, then the word may be a character sequence inside of a word.Standard ispell choices are then available.Notes:<ol style="list-style-type: none">this also works in Org-Mode, even though the binding is not available.If flyspell is activated, the keys are bound to flyspell-auto-correct-word (see below).
Ispell - Check a single word	M-\$	(ispell-word &optional FOLLOWING QUIETLY CONTINUE REGION)	Check spelling of word under or before the cursor. Several options are available at that moment: see the following "Ispell operation" lines below for the single line command that can then be used. A list of replacement is shown in a buffer. Use the letter i to include the word into the dictionary.
Interactive spell checking	The following commands perform interactive spell checking. The commands spell check a portion of text and stops at the first misspelled word, opening a "Choices" buffer to prompt for replacement. Your response can be one of several characters, described in the row below. The related commands are shown in the following rows.		
Ispell "Choices" buffer keys Response characters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">? : Ispell prints more options in the minibuffer. These extra options are over the correction characters shown in "Choices"digit : Replace the word with the one identified by the choice digit.i : insert the <i>"misspelled"</i> word inside the private dictionary file located in ~/.ispell_<language>m : same as i but you can also specify dictionary completion information.l word : look in the dictionary for words that match <i>word</i>. These words become the new list of replacement proposals. You can use "*" in <i>word</i> as wildcards.u : uncapitalized the <i>"misspelled"</i> word inside the private dictionary file located in ~/.ispell_<language>r : prompt for the correct spelling, replace this instance (the replacement string is then accepted later in the text)R : query replace in buffer<space> : do not replace, skipa : accept word, treat it as correct; do not replace, skip over this word now and later in all buffer for this sessionA : accept word, treat it as correct; do not replace, skip over this word now and after in this buffer only for this session.x : quit interactive spell-checking, leaving point at the word that was being checked. Resume checking afterward with C-u M-\$.x : quit interactive spell-checking and move point back to where it was when you started spell-checking.q : quit interactive spell-checking and kill the Ispell process.C-q : Stop Ispell. When this is used, it is possible to resume Ispell later with C-u M-\$ or via the menu.		
Ispell - spell check buffer or region	<f11> \$.	(ispell)	Interactively check a region or buffer for spelling errors. <ul style="list-style-type: none">If 'transient-mark-mode' is on, and a region is active, spell-check that region. Otherwise spell-check the buffer.
Ispell - spell check buffer	<f11> \$ b	(ispell-buffer)	Check the current buffer for spelling errors interactively. Disregard presence of region.
Ispell - spell-check region	<f11> \$ r	(ispell-region REG-START REG-END &optional RECHECKP SHIFT)	Interactively check a region for spelling errors.
Ispell - spell-check email body	<f11> \$ m	(ispell-message)	Check the spelling of a mail message or news post. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Don't check spelling of message headers except the Subject field.Don't check included messages.To abort spell checking of a message region and send the message anyway, use the 'x' command. (Any subsequent regions will be checked.)The 'X' command aborts sending the message so that you can edit the buffer.
Ispell - spell-check comment and strings	<f11> \$;	(ispell-comments-and-strings)	Check comments and strings in the current buffer for spelling errors.
Ispell - continue spell checking	C-u M-\$	(ispell-continue)	Continue a halted spelling session beginning with the current word.
Ispell Process Control			
Ispell - kill the ispell process	<f11> \$ K	(ispell-kill-ispell &optional NO-ERROR CLEAR)	Kill current Ispell process (so that you may start a fresh one). 👉 The spell check program runs as a background task connected via a pipe. It's not taking much CPU when no spelling is done, so it's normally not necessary to kill it; you can leave it running. However, it may become necessary to kill it when you want to change the dictionary or want to reduce the overhead.
Change Language Dictionary	<f11> \$ D	(ispell-change-dictionary DICT &optional ARG)	Change to dictionary DICT for ispell/aspell. <ul style="list-style-type: none">With a prefix arg, set it "globally", for all buffers.Without a prefix arg, set it "locally", just for this buffer. 👉 Prompts supports completion: by just answering RET you can find out what the current dictionary is.

Topic & link	Description
How can I change the language in Emacs when using ispell?	
Enabling spell-checking in comments	
in Emacs flyspell-mode, how to add new word to dictionary?	
Aspell Windows @ EmacsWiki	In Setup for 64-bit Windows 7
GNU Aspell (Win32 version)	