

# Emacs support for C3

Description	Keystroke	Function	Note
<b>C3 Support</b>			
• File associations			<p>C3 is a programming language based off the C language. It is relatively new and still evolving.</p> <p>PEL supports the only supported mode for C3: the <a href="#">tree-sitter</a>-based <b>c3-ts-mode</b> provided by the external <a href="#">c3-ts-mode</a> package.</p> <p>⚠️ Requires the <b>c3-ts-mode</b> file  PEL installs it in the utils directory when <b>pel-use-c3</b> user-option is set to t.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PEL associates the files with the .c3, .c3i and .c3t file extensions with <b>c3-ts-mode</b>.</li> <li>⚠️ PEL support for C3 requires <b>Emacs &gt;= 30.1</b> because tree-sitter is required by <b>c3-ts-mode</b>, and PEL only support tree-sitter for Emacs &gt;= 30.1:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See <a href="#">Tree Sitter</a> and <a href="#">Tree-sitter</a>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>PEL activates <a href="#">Speedbar</a> support for the C3 files when <b>pel-use-speedbar</b> user-option is on (set to t).</li> <li>imenu support provided by <b>c3-ts-mode</b> is available.</li> </ul>
Last updated on:	2025-12-29		
<a href="#">Open this PDF file.</a> See also: <a href="#">Help/Info</a>	<b>&lt;f11&gt; SPC M-G &lt;f1&gt;</b> <b>&lt;f12&gt; &lt;f1&gt;</b>	( <b>pel-help-pdf</b> &optional OPEN-WEB-PAGE)	Open the <a href="#">PI - C3</a> local PDF. If the prefix argument (like <b>C-u</b> or <b>M--</b> ) is used, then it opens the remote GitHub hosted raw PDF instead. If the <b>pel-flip-help-pdf-arg</b> user-option is set it's the other way around.
<a href="#">Customize PEL C3 support</a>	<b>&lt;f11&gt; SPC M-G &lt;f2&gt;</b> <b>&lt;f12&gt; &lt;f2&gt;</b>	( <b>pel-customize-pel</b> &optional OTHER-WINDOW)	Customize PEL C3 support. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If OTHER-WINDOW is non-nil (use <b>C-u</b>), display in another window.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Customize Emacs C3 support</a>	<b>&lt;f11&gt; SPC M-G &lt;f3&gt;</b> <b>&lt;f12&gt; &lt;f3&gt;</b>	( <b>pel-customize-library</b> &optional OTHER-WINDOW)	Customize Emacs C3 support: c3-ts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If OTHER-WINDOW is non-nil (use <b>C-u</b>), display in another window.</li> <li>👉 Several aspects of c3-ts-mode are controlled by PEL as defined in the user-options accessed by <b>&lt;f12&gt; &lt;f2&gt;</b> and override the c3-ts ones.</li> </ul>
Show PEL setup for C3	<b>&lt;f11&gt; SPC M-G ?</b> <b>&lt;f12&gt; ?</b>	( <b>pel-c3-setup-info</b> &optional APPEND)	Display C3 setup information inside a *pel-c3-info* buffer with buttons providing quick access to the customization buffer of each variable shown. The information shown includes the value and interpretation of: c3-ts-indent-offset, tab-width, activated minor modes To append information in the buffer instead of clearing the previous content type any prefix argument (such as <b>C-u</b> ) before the command keystroke.
Set visual rendering of hard tabs for the current buffer See <a href="#">Indentation</a> for more information and commands.	<b>&lt;f11&gt; &lt;tab&gt; w</b> <b>&lt;f12&gt; M-t</b>	( <b>pel-set-tab-width</b> N)	Change the tab width of the current buffer, only affecting the display rendering of hard tabs inserted in the buffer text. Prompts for a new value in the [2, 8] range. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This modifies a buffer local value of the <b>tab-width</b> user-option.</li> <li>The change is temporary and affects the current buffer only.</li> <li>To change the tab width used for all C3 source code files, change the '<b>pel-c3-tab-width</b>' user-option variable instead.</li> </ul>
<b>Comments</b>	See also: <a href="#">Comments</a>		
<a href="#">Insert, realign, comment/uncomment region</a>	<b>M-;</b>	( <b>comment-dwim</b> ARG)	Insert or realign comment on current line (or region if a region is active). If line/region is already commented, uncomment it. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On a single line, the comment is placed after the code.</li> <li><b>C-u M-;</b> executes comment-kill</li> </ul>
With PEL: Comment the current line with <b>M-0 M-;</b>		( <b>pel-comment-dwim</b> ARG)	Same as <b>comment-dwim</b> but comments the current line with a numeric ARG or 0.
Select C3 comment style	<b>&lt;f12&gt; &lt;f4&gt; M-;</b>	( <b>pel-select-c3-comment-style</b> )	Select from the following C3 comment styles generated by <b>comment-dwim</b> and <b>pel-comment-dwim</b> commands: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>//</li> <li>/* */</li> <li>&lt;*&gt; *</li> </ul>
<b>Navigation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Shift selection</b> is supported by some commands, not all. The following symbols are used to identify whether the command supports shifts selection:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⤵ This command supports shift selection in GUI and terminal mode.</li> <li>⤷ This command supports shift selection only in GUI mode.</li> <li>⤸ This command supports shift selection in GUI mode and also in terminal mode under some conditions (described in the description cell for the command).</li> <li>⤹ This command does <b>not</b> support shift selection. Sometimes for this you can first set the mark before moving.</li> <li>Pressing the Shift key when using the key binding for commands that do not show any of these 3 arrows have no impact on the shift selection (and may be inappropriate for the command).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
• <a href="#">by defun : C3 definitions</a>	<p>The commands move point by C3 definitions: <a href="#">functions</a>, <a href="#">macros</a>, <a href="#">structs</a>, <a href="#">bitstructs</a>, <a href="#">enums</a>, <a href="#">unions</a>, constants, <a href="#">alias</a>, <a href="#">typedef</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>&lt;f6&gt;</b> cursor key mappings use <b>&lt;up&gt;</b> and <b>&lt;down&gt;</b> to move to the beginning of the defun, and <b>&lt;left&gt;</b> and <b>&lt;right&gt;</b> to the end of the defun.</li> <li>In this context the word <b>defun</b> corresponds to any of the C3 definitions listed above.</li> </ul> <p>These commands are all enhanced by the use of <a href="#">Tree Sitter</a>.</p>		
<a href="#">Backward to beginning of C3 definition</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>&lt;f6&gt; &lt;up&gt;</b></li> <li>• <b>C-M-a</b></li> <li>• <b>C-M-&lt;home&gt;</b></li> <li>• <b>C-[ C-a</b></li> <li>• <b>Esc C-a</b></li> </ul>	( <b>beginning-of-defun</b> &optional ARG)	<p>Move backward to the beginning of a C3 definition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With ARG, do it that many times. Negative ARG means move forward to the ARGth following beginning of defun.</li> <li>⚠️ This command moves to the beginning go the next definition of the same nesting level of the current location. It skips the nested definitions.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Forward to end of C3 definition</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>&lt;f6&gt; &lt;right&gt;</b></li> <li>• <b>C-M-e</b></li> <li>• <b>C-M-&lt;end&gt;</b></li> <li>• <b>C-[ C-e</b></li> <li>• <b>Esc C-e</b></li> </ul>	( <b>end-of-defun</b> &optional ARG)	<p>Move forward to next end of C3 definition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With argument, do it that many times. Negative argument -N means move back to Nth preceding end of defun.</li> <li>⚠️ This command moves to the end of the next top-level function or class. It skips the nested definitions.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Forward to start of next C3 definition</a>	<b>&lt;f6&gt; &lt;down&gt;</b>	( <b>pel-beginning-of-next-defun</b> &optional SILENT DONT-PUSH_MARK)	<p>Move forward to the beginning of the next C3 definition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beeps if does not find beginning of next function unless SILENT is non-nil.</li> <li>If the beginning of next function is found, push the start location to the mark ring unless DONT-PUSH_MARK is non-nil.           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Move back to previous position with <b>M-`</b> or <b>&lt;f6&gt;&lt;f6&gt;</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<a href="#">Backward to end of previous C3 definition</a>	<b>&lt;f6&gt; &lt;left&gt;</b>	( <b>pel-end-of-previous-defun</b> &optional SILENT DONT-PUSH_MARK)	<p>Move backwards to the end of the previous C3 definition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beeps if does not find end of previous function unless SILENT is non-nil.</li> <li>If the end of previous function is found, push the start location to the mark ring unless DONT-PUSH_MARK is non-nil.           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Move back to previous position with <b>M-`</b> or <b>&lt;f6&gt;&lt;f6&gt;</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
• <a href="#">by blocks</a>	<p>Blocks can be: pairs of brackets: ()[], {}, &lt;&gt;, "", ". Blocks using parentheses correspond to Lisp S-Expressions (sexp).</p> <p>👉 The commands move across C3 blocks but also to the next/previous syntax element.</p>		
<a href="#">block backward</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>C-M-&lt;left&gt;</b></li> <li>• <b>Esc C-&lt;left&gt;</b> ⚠️</li> <li>• <b>C-M-b</b></li> <li>• <b>C-[ C-b</b></li> <li>• <b>Esc C-b</b></li> </ul>	( <b>backward-sexp</b> &optional ARG)	<p>Move backward across one balanced expression (sexp).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With ARG, do it that many times. Negative arg -N means move forward across N balanced expressions. This command assumes point is not in a string or comment.</li> <li>⚠️ With PEL: if you want to use <b>Esc C-&lt;left&gt;</b> binding you must ensure that <b>pel-windmove-on-esc-cursor</b> user option is set to nil.</li> <li>❖ <b>C-M-&lt;left&gt;</b> does not work on Windows, but <b>H-&lt;left&gt;</b> works.</li> </ul>

Description	Keystroke	Function	Note
	⚠️ Several Linux distros map <b>C-M-&lt;left&gt;</b> to desktop workspace operation. In that case you can either use another key binding or change Linux key binding in Systems->settings->keyboard->shortcuts to prevent it from using that key sequence.		
<b>block forward</b>	 <b>C-M-&lt;right&gt;</b>  <b>Esc C-&lt;right&gt;</b> ⚠️  <b>C-M-f</b> <b>C-[ C-f</b> <b>Esc C-f</b>	(forward-sexp &optional ARG)	Move forward across one balanced expression (sexp). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With ARG, do it that many times. Negative arg -N means move backward across N balanced expressions. This command assumes point is not in a string or comment.</li> <li>⚠️ With PEL: if you want to use <b>Esc C-&lt;right&gt;</b> binding you must ensure that <b>pel-windmove-on-esc-cursor</b> user option is set to nil. ❖ <b>C-M-&lt;right&gt;</b> does not work on Windows, but <b>H-&lt;right&gt;</b> does.</li> </ul>
	⚠️ Several Linux distros map <b>C-M-&lt;right&gt;</b> to desktop workspace operation. In that case you can either use another key binding or change Linux key binding in Systems->settings->keyboard->shortcuts to prevent it from using that key sequence.		
<b>Up/inside sexp hierarchy</b>	 <b>C-M-&lt;up&gt;</b>  <b>Esc C-&lt;up&gt;</b>  <b>C-M-u</b> <b>C-[ C-u</b> <b>Esc C-u</b>	(backward-up-list &optional ARG ESCAPE-STRINGS NO-SYNTAX-CROSSING)	Move backward out of one level of parentheses. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This command will also work on other parentheses-like expressions defined by the current language mode. With ARG, do this that many times.</li> <li>A negative argument means move forward but still to a less deep spot.</li> <li>⚠️ With PEL: if you want to use <b>Esc C-&lt;up&gt;</b> binding you must ensure that <b>pel-windmove-on-esc-cursor</b> user option is set to nil. ❖ <b>C-M-&lt;up&gt;</b> does not work on Windows, but <b>H-&lt;up&gt;</b> does.</li> </ul>
<b>Down/inside sexp/block</b>	 <b>C-M-&lt;down&gt;</b>  <b>Esc C-&lt;down&gt;</b>  <b>C-M-d</b> <b>C-[ C-d</b> <b>Esc C-d</b>	(down-list &optional ARG)	Move forward down one level of parentheses. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This command will also work on other parentheses-like expressions defined by the current language mode.</li> <li>With ARG, do this that many times. A negative argument means move backward but still go down a level.</li> <li>This command assumes point is not in a string or comment.</li> <li>⚠️ With PEL: To use <b>Esc C-&lt;down&gt;</b> binding you must ensure that <b>pel-windmove-on-esc-cursor</b> user option is set to nil. ❖ <b>C-M-&lt;down&gt;</b> does not work on Windows, but <b>H-&lt;down&gt;</b> does.</li> </ul>

## Emacs & C3 – References

Document	Notes		
The C3 Programming Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">C3 home</a></li> <li><a href="#">c3c: C3 Compiler @ Github</a></li> </ul>	GitHub repos:	
Learning C3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">What is C3?</a></li> </ul>		
C3 blogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">C evolved: The C3 programming Language, by Cristopher Lernö</a></li> </ul>		
C3 LSP servers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">c3-lsp</a>: LSP-server for the C3 language. This must be installed manually. See the <a href="#">installation instructions</a>.</li> </ul>		
Emacs support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">c3-ts-mode @ Github</a> : tree-sitter-based major-mode for C3.</li> <li><a href="#">tree-sitter-c3 @ Github</a> : tree-sitter language grammar for C3.</li> </ul>		